



BRAILLE CENTENARY

1928-9
ANNUAL REPORT
National Institute for the Blind

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ANNUAL REPORT
for the Year ended March 31st, 1929
of the
EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
of the
NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR THE BLIND
(Registered under the Blind Persons Act, 1920)

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W. MCG. EAGAR

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Auditors :

JACKSON, PINLEY & CO., 58 Coleman Street, E.C.2.

Bankers :

THE WESTMINSTER BANK, LTD., Harley Street Branch, 154 Harley Street, W.1.

Headquarters :

224, 226 and 228 Great Portland Street, London, W.1

Branches :

The Moon Society, Works : 104 Queen's Road, Brighton.

Sunshine Homes for Blind Babies :—

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"Sunshine House," Chorley Wood, Herts. (being rebuilt)

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Hon. Ophthalmic Surgeon : N. BISHOP HARMAN, M.D., F.R.C.S.

Hon. Dental Surgeon : F. VINCENT DENNE, M.D.

Hon. Secretary of Local Committee : MISS NORA COLLINS

"Sunshine House," Oxford Road, Birkdale, Southport, Lancs.

Hon. Consultant : A. DINGWALL FORDYCE, M.D., F.R.C.P.

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W. C. BENTALL, O.B.E., F.R.C.S.

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Hon. Pathologist : E. CRONIN LOWE, M.B.E., M.B., B.S.

Hon. Dentist : W. A. FINDLAY, L.D.S.

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"Sunshine House," Abbotskerswell, South Devon

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Hon. Dentist : H. DOGGER

Hon. Ophthalmic Surgeon : D. WILSON, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

College for Girls with Little or No Sight, Chorley Wood, Herts.

Hon. Ophthalmic Surgeon : N. BISHOP HARMAN, M.D., F.R.C.S.

Hon. Medical Officer : J. R. VENNING, M.A., L.R.C.P.

Hon. Dentist : S. W. CHARLES, L.D.S.

School of Massage, 224 Great Portland Street, London, W.1.

Hon. Medical Consultant : C. C. WORSTER-DROUGHT, M.D., M.R.C.P.

Guest House for Aged Blind Women, Bloomfield, Leamington Spa, Warwickshire.

Hon. Medical Officer : G. L. LEVIN, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

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Hon. Dentist : F. J. ROBERTS

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Hostels for Blind Women, 8 and 9 Oval Road, Gloucester Gate, London, N.W.1.

Home Industries Department, 31 Holmesdale Road, Reigate, Surrey.

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Area :

NEWCASTLE

YORKSHIRE

LIVERPOOL

MANCHESTER

EASTERN COUNTIES

WESTERN COUNTIES

SOUTH WESTERN COUNTIES

HOME COUNTIES

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Commercial Union Buildings, 47 Pilgrim Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne

8 St. Ann Street, Leeds

May Buildings, 51 North John Street, Liverpool

90 Deansgate, Manchester

12 Park Road, Peterborough

2 St. Paul's Road, Clifton, Bristol

43 Southernhay West, Exeter

224 Great Portland Street, London, W.1

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PREFATORY NOTE

IN presenting this Report to the public, the Executive Council of the National Institute for the Blind wish to emphasize the fact that it is not only a summary of the year's work and Statement of Accounts, but a book intended to awaken and stimulate interest in work for the blind generally. Accordingly, it is hoped it will be kept for reference or passed from hand to hand as an account of what the problem of blindness is, and of how the needs of the blind are being met.

It is published to win sympathy and understanding for the 50,000 men, women and children in England and Wales who have to face life without the gift of sight, and readers who wish to express their sympathy in one most practical manner will find certain blue forms inserted for their use. These are:—

1. A bankers' order form by which annual subscriptions can be paid direct through the bankers.
2. A simple subscription or donation form.
3. A Covenanted subscription form (see page 2).
4. A form of bequest, and a form for a codicil to a Will.

A copy of this Report is sent without charge to all those who have so generously helped the Institute in the past. The Institute will gladly supply further copies at 1s. each, post free.

Records of all contributions received may be seen at the Institute's Headquarters, or at the Branches

Report of the Executive Council *of the* National Institute *for the* Blind *for the* Financial year ended, March 1929

FOR several years co-operation between bodies working for the blind has been growing in value and in extent. Small societies formerly working in isolation have linked themselves to larger societies with wider fields of activity; local societies have been gathered into groups by county associations, acting in accordance with the Ministry of Health and county and borough authorities; county associations are in constant touch with each other through a union of associations; and national institutions have justified their title by broader policies based on more intimate knowledge of local conditions and closer intercommunication.

¶ We, as responsible for the policy of the National Institute for the Blind, have done our best to foster this movement, and the outstanding feature of the past year's work has been the continuance of the Institute's efforts to unify work for the blind throughout the country. Every existing means of minimizing the handicap of blindness should be available to every blind person, and the "pooling" of knowledge and experience is the first essential to its universal dissemination.

Equally important is the "pooling" of powers. As most readers of this Report know, a marked feature of our policy for the last fifteen years has been the allocation of financial grants to societies and institutions engaged in valuable work in different parts of the country but in need of regular financial support. This policy led to the formation of collecting agreements with local societies, under a Unification Scheme, approved by the Advisory Committee to the Ministry of Health, by which the results of one appeal in a specified area are allocated in agreed proportion to local and national work. In some areas, the local society is responsible for collecting; in others, the collecting is managed by the Institute; but in either case the result is an equitable distribution to local and national work for the blind of the fruits of public generosity.

Gratitude to Supporters.

That generosity, we are happy to report, has been sustained throughout the year, and we are deeply grateful to all those who have subscribed to the National Institute, either directly, or in response to appeals made by societies with whom the Institute has collecting agreements, or through the Greater London Fund for the Blind. Every one of these subscriptions has brought benefit not only to blind individuals but, because of co-operation, to the blind community as a whole.

The Most Valuable Help.

We have mentioned in former Reports that the most valuable form of donation is the annual subscription. This has been recognised by one who is ever foremost in acts of kindness, namely, His Majesty the King, who, during the year, most graciously showed his sympathy with his sightless subjects by subscribing £100 per annum to the Institute's funds.

To maintain the Institute's work, we must depend chiefly on annual subscriptions; to extend it, we must hope for good results of appeals for specific objects, and for legacies.

There is ample room for extension, but we cannot embark on new undertakings without adequate funds behind them. A legacy, therefore, may mean the opening of new possibilities for the blind; it may mean unimagined happiness for hundreds now toiling in darkness; it may mean the emancipation of thousands from the shackles of limited education and meagre opportunities.

Need for More Support.

Although sincerely grateful for continuous help, we must emphasise the fact that our income during the past year is less by £7,000 than that of the previous year. This decline was not unexpected. To a certain extent it is the natural effect of our endeavours to secure a wider and more level distribution of service to the blind. But we trust that the public will be eager to show its sympathy with a policy based on the first principle of

An Income Tax Concession

successful co-operation—the subordination of individual interests to the general good of a community.

Covenanted Subscriptions.

There is one way in which our present annual subscribers can increase their subscriptions to the Institute without extra cost to themselves. If a subscriber undertakes to pay to the Institute a fixed annual sum for a period of seven years (the undertaking is automatically terminated by death), the Finance Act permits the Institute to reclaim from the Inland Revenue Authorities the Income Tax already paid by the donor on account of the annual subscription as part of ordinary taxed income. This concession was granted in response to the general desire that charitable donations should be exempt from taxation. All, then, that a subscriber need do to augment a donation in this manner is to fill in and sign, in the presence

of a witness, the Covenant Form (marked 3 on the blue slip inserted in this Report) and return it to the Institute. On receipt of this form, the Institute will forward to the subscriber for signature a Certificate which will enable the Institute to reclaim the income tax paid on the amount of the subscription.

While calling attention to Covenanted Subscriptions, we may point out that the National Council of Social Service of 26, Bedford Square, W.C.1, undertakes to distribute subscriptions to any list of Charities selected by the subscriber. By this method, generous friends of good causes are assured that all the Charities which they desire to benefit recover the Income Tax on the subscriptions given. We venture to hope that subscribers through the National Council of Social Service will include the National Institute for the Blind on their list.



THE YEAR'S WORK



IN the following pages we give brief details of the main features of the year's work. These are followed by five sections summarising the Institute's work to date in five main directions, namely: 1 Education; 2 Conquest of Blindness; 3 Employment; 4 Care of Sick, Poor and Aged; 5 Co-operation.

Collecting Agreements.

The number of agencies for the blind with which the Institute has collecting agreements has been increased during the year from 67 to 79. The National Library for the Blind is a party to all such agreements, which are of two types: (a) the Institute collects the funds, retains 25 per cent. for national work, and hands over 75 per cent. to the local agency for local work; (b) the local agency collects the funds, retains 80 per cent. for local work, and hands over 20 per cent. to the Institute for national work. The shares allocated for national work are divided in agreed proportion between the National Institute and the National Library.

Standard Agreements.

From force of circumstances, the agreements during the period of initiation of the Unification Scheme varied in detail, but, mainly owing to the labours of a special Unification Sub-Committee

appointed by us, the two types of agreement have now been standardised, and it is hoped that gradually all agreements, either new or renewed, will follow the standard forms. This will greatly simplify accounting and general administration.

Greater London Fund for the Blind.

The Greater London Fund for the Blind is a collecting agent for the Metropolitan societies and workshops and for the two great national agencies. The Fund, it will be remembered, was founded and managed for several years by the Institute. Last year, when its scope was widened, the control passed to a representative Committee. The offices of the Fund are, however, still at the Institute; the Institute's Secretary-General acts as the Fund's Chief Executive Officer; and the advice and assistance of the Institute's officials are always available. A noteworthy appeal broadcast, through the courtesy of the British Broadcasting Corporation, in August 1928, by Captain Sir Beachcroft Towse, V.C., the Institute's Chairman and Vice-President of the Fund, brought in over £3,000.

The net amount raised by the Fund is at present allocated as follows: 45 per cent. to the workshops; 35 per cent. to the National Institute and the National Library; 20 per cent. to the County Associations; a reserve, not exceeding £500

Agencies with which the Institute has Collecting Agreements to which the National Library for the Blind is a Party.

COLLECTION MADE BY THE INSTITUTE.

Barnsley and District Association for the Blind.
Bath Home Teaching Society for the Blind.
Cambridgeshire Society for the Blind.
Chester Society for the Home Teaching of the Blind.
Darlington Society for the Blind.
Doncaster and District Home Teaching Society for the Blind.
East Sussex Association for the Blind.
Essex County Association for the Blind.
Gloucester (City) Blind Association.
Gloucester County Association for the Blind.
Harrogate and District Society for the Blind.
Huddersfield and District Blind Society.
Herefordshire County Association for the Blind.
Isle of Ely Society for the Blind.
Keighley and District Institution for the Blind.
Leeds Incorporated Institution for the Blind.
Lindsey (Lincs.) Blind Society.
Liverpool Workshops for the Blind.
Macclesfield Home Teaching Society for the Blind.
Newcastle Agencies for the Blind :
 Newcastle and Gateshead Home Teaching Society for the Blind.
 Newcastle Royal Victoria School for the Blind.
 Newcastle Workshops for the Blind.
Norwich Institution for the Blind.
Sheffield and District Voluntary Association for the Blind.
South Western Counties Association for the Blind :
 Cornwall County Association for the Blind.
 Devon County Association for the Blind.
 Dorset County Association for the Blind.
 Somerset County Association for the Blind.
 South Devon and Cornwall Institution for the Blind.
 Plymouth.
 West of England Institution for the Blind, Exeter.
Wakefield and District Institution and Workshops for the Blind.
West Sussex Association for the Blind.
Wiltshire County Association for the Blind.
Yorkshire School for the Blind.

COLLECTION MADE BY THE LOCAL AGENCY.

Barrow and District Society for the Blind.
Berkshire County Blind Society.
Bournemouth Blind Aid Society.
Bradford Royal Institution for the Blind.
Cardiff Institute for the Blind.
Cleveland and South Durham Institute for the Blind.
Eastbourne Society for the Social Welfare of the Blind.
Halifax Society for the Blind.

COLLECTION MADE BY THE LOCAL AGENCY (*continued*)

Hampshire Association for the Care of the Blind.
Hastings Voluntary Association for the Blind.
Hertfordshire Society for the Blind.
Hull and East Riding Institute for the Blind.
Kent County Association for the Blind.
Kesteven (Lincs.) Blind Society.
Lincoln Blind Society.
Midland Societies for the Blind :
 Birmingham Royal Institution for the Blind.
 Burton-on-Trent Blind Committee.
 Coventry Society for the Blind.
 Shropshire County Association for the Blind.
 Staffordshire County Association for the Blind.
 Stourbridge Institution for the Blind.
 Walsall, Wednesbury and District Society for the Blind.
 Warwickshire County Association for the Blind.
 Worcestershire County Association for the Blind.
Newport and Monmouthshire Blind Aid Society.
Nottingham Royal Midland Institution for the Blind.
Oxford (City and County) Society for the Blind.
Southampton Association for the Blind.
Sunderland and Durham County Royal Institute for the Blind.
Surrey Voluntary Association for the Blind.
Worthing Society for Befriending the Blind.
 (Division on 25-75 per cent. basis, but Society collects).

**COLLECTION MADE BY THE GREATER LONDON FUND
FOR THE BLIND (See page 2).**

Barclay Workshops for Blind Women.
Croydon Voluntary Association for the Blind.
East Ham Welfare Association for the Blind.
Essex County Association for the Blind.
Incorporated Association for Promoting the General Welfare of the Blind.
Kent County Association for the Blind.
London Association for the Blind.
London Society for Teaching and Training the Blind
 with which is incorporated West London Workshops for the Blind.
Metropolitan and Adjacent Counties Association for the Blind.
Middlesex Association for the Blind.
Royal School for the Indigent Blind, Leatherhead including the Blind Employment Factory, Waterloo Road.
Surrey Voluntary Association for the Blind.
West Ham Association for the Blind.
Workshop for the Blind of Kent.

per annum, may be divided amongst smaller societies assisting the blind of London.

Allocations and Grants.

The accompanying table shows the allocations made during the year ended March 31st, 1929,

under percentage agreements to local agencies in areas where the Institute collects, amounting to a total of £20,074 13s. 4d.; and the fixed and special grants (indicated by an asterisk) made by the Institute irrespective of agreements, amounting to a total of £1,664 19s. 2d.

Financial Help to Local Agencies

Allocations and Grants.

[illegible]

Embossed Publications.

The numbers of embossed books, periodicals and music published during the year were as follows :—

BRAILLE.				LITERATURE PLATES STEREOTYPED (books, magazines and newspapers)			
BOOKS AND PERIODICALS—				MUSIC PLATES STEREOTYPED			
Bound Volumes (general literature)	21,563						2,065
Pamphlets	11,590						
Magazines	198,973						
Newspapers	350,024						
				MOON.			
MS. BOOKS FOR STUDENTS—				BOOKS AND PERIODICALS—			
Bound Volumes	684			Bound volumes (general literature)	6,260		
				Pamphlets, alphabets, etc.	13,538		
				Magazines	3,172		
MUSIC—				Newspapers and Supplements	30,806		
Bound Volumes	1,247			PAGES OF TYPE SET	8,802		
Pamphlets (Braille equivalent of sheet music) ..	11,995						

Literature in Braille.

The total production is slightly in excess of that of the previous year. The method of production is described on pages 29 and 30.

A completely revised catalogue has been issued during the year. The following headings of the sections illustrate the varied types of books published: Instruction books, anthologies, biography, classics, educational (including biography, dictionaries, grammar, economics, English, geography, maps and atlases, history, mathematics, natural history, object lessons, school reading books, science, tables, etc.), essays and belles lettres, fiction, juvenile fiction, works in foreign languages (Esperanto, French, German, Greek, Hebrew, Italian, Latin, Malayalam, Maratha, Urdu, Welsh), history, literary criticism, massage and medical, poetry and drama, religious and devotional (hymns, prayer books, psalters, the Holy Scriptures), travel, vocational. This catalogue is proving very useful to the intending purchaser, as a brief description is appended to every title, not only of general and educational works but of fiction. A Braille edition of the catalogue, which can be truly described as a Guide to Literature for the Blind, is in course of preparation.

The prices given in the catalogue represent the actual cost of production of books. To every blind person resident in the British Isles and throughout the British Empire, a discount of two-thirds of this price is allowed. That is to say, any blind person can purchase from the Institute for 2s. od. a book which costs the Institute 6s. od. to produce.

A similar discount is also allowed to the National Library for the Blind when purchasing books. The Library circulates embossed books of all kinds throughout the country free of charge. Thus, by reducing the purchase price of embossed books to a figure comparable with the price of ordinary books, we do our best to make available to the general blind public a constant supply of literature.

Many books are given free of all cost, and during the year, the Institute presented books to the National

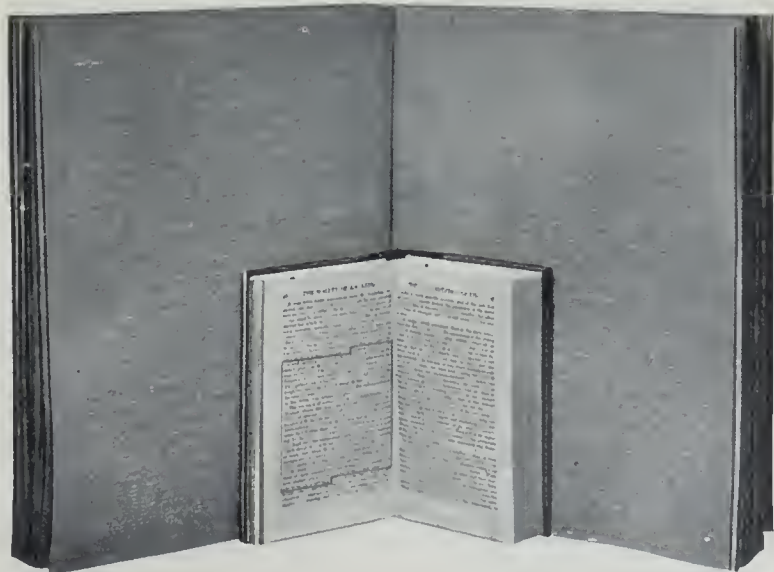
Library amounting in value to £1,140.

The following brief selection of works published in Braille during the year is, we venture to think, sufficient proof that we try to cater for all tastes:—

Some Great English Novels (O. Williams).
Uncle Remus (J. Chandler Harris).
The Black Tulip (Alexandre Dumas).
Riceman Steps (Arnold Bennett).
Memories and Opinions (William Barry).
Everybody's Pepys.
The Jesuits in North America (Francis Parkman).
A Lost Lady (Willa Cather).
The Crock of Gold (James Stephens).
The Religions of the World (Rev. C. C. Martindale).
Beau Geste (P. C. Wren).
Handbook on the Welfare of the Blind.
The Great White South (H. Ponting).
Challenge to Sirius (S. Kaye-Smith).
Dialogues of Plato.
Knights of the Cross (H. Sienkiewicz).
Boys and Girls of History (E. and R. Power).
The Secret of Father Brown (G. K. Chesterton).
Broomsticks, and Other Tales (Walter de la Mare).
Sounding Brass (Ethel Mannin).
Apologia Pro Vita Sua (Cardinal Newman).
Virgin Soil (Ivan S. Turgenev).
Scouting for Boys (General Baden-Powell).

Choice of Books.

Our Publications Sub-Committee is guided



"The Wallet of Kai Ling" occupies three large Braille volumes. The Braille characters on the two large pages represent the print enclosed in black lines.

All Types of Literature

in its selections by the advice of experts in every branch of literature, science and education. Not only does the Committee benefit by the experience and taste of the distinguished members of our Consultative Committee (see page ii), but publishers, educational authorities, authors, editors and other experts are always ready to give advice on particular subjects. Leading Schools and Institutions for the Blind throughout the British Empire are asked before each meeting of the Sub-Committee to suggest publications, while every suggestion made by individuals is carefully considered. In such ways, we keep in constant touch with the current demand.

Here is an extract from a letter received from a blind librarian, one amongst many:—

"Have just gone over the advanced list of works passed for publication by the N.I.B., and I wish to congratulate you all on the splendid selections made. We seem now to be in a fair way to getting what we want Now that I shall have the whole of Homer in proper English form, I shall rise up and call the N.I.B. blessed We shall be glad to receive as a matter of course the whole of the present list when ready."

Authors, publishers and other owners of copyright have continued, with their usual generosity, to permit us to issue Braille editions of published works free of all charge. Many leading writers have granted us permission to reproduce in Braille any of their published or future works and have expressed great interest in the work of what may be correctly described as the leading publishing house for the blind in the world.

The Holy Bible.

The last portion of the new compact edition of the Authorised Version of the Bible was completed during the year. From the time the first portion was published, nearly 4,000 separate volumes have been printed and sold. New portions of the Bible have been produced in Arabic for the British and Foreign Bible Society, in addition to many reprints of portions already in Braille.

Maps.

Steady progress has been maintained in the production of the new series of embossed maps with guides in Braille. Maps of all the countries in the world will soon be available.

Telephone Guide.

An interesting work published during the year for a customer was a Braille edition of a book containing the whole of the telephone and toll

charges of the Telephone Service for the use of blind telephonists.

Increasing Output.

Very heavy calls were made during the period under review upon the Institute's embossing presses, and there is no prospect of undertaking publications additional to our normal output with our existing machinery. Accordingly, we are carefully considering the possibility of installing more efficient and up-to-date machines and methods, such as, for example, rotary processes.

Literature in Moon Type.

The demand for Moon literature is steadily increasing. The number of pages of Moon type set shows an increase of 10 per cent. over the previous year's increase of 35 per cent.

The policy of printing limited editions of new publications direct from type has been continued, and is receiving the steady support of the blind and libraries for the blind at home, in the Colonies, and in America—the Moon Society being practically the sole producer of Moon books in the world. The demand for fiction being overwhelmingly greater than for any other type of literature, the latest series have consisted of fiction only. The sixth and seventh series included:—

The Devil's Pool (George Sand).
By Order of the Company (Mary Johnston).
The Splendid Spur (Quiller-Couch).
A Girl of the Limberlost (Gene Stratton Porter).
The Jessamy Bride (Frankfort Moore).
Anne of Green Gables (Montgomery).
A Soldier from Virginia (Marjorie Bowen).
The Simpkins Plot (Birmingham).
Three Men in a Boat (Jerome).
The Scarlet Pimpernel (Baroness Orczy).
The Flower Show (Mackail).
Kim (Kipling).
With Edged Tools (Merriman).

A number of tales from "Great Stories of all Nations" have also been produced.

The Moon catalogue contains a large variety of works of biography, devotion, essays, fiction, history, etc., and copies can always be supplied.

A number of well-known hymns have been issued in single sheets—a very popular form of publication.

We receive many letters from appreciative Moon readers. Here is an extract from one of these:—

"I have often made up my mind to write to you in a full heart of gratitude, and let you know the great joy and happiness I have had from reading your Moon-type books. . . . It would be a very lonely life but for

Embossed Publications.

TITLE.	DATE OF PUBLICATION.	DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS.
1. BRAILLE.		
<i>(a) Edited and published by the Institute.</i>		
Braille Mail	Friday	The Week's news arranged in sections.—home, foreign, sports, etc.
Braille Radio Times	Friday	Resumé of all programmes broadcast from B.B.C. stations, with technical and general supplements.
Progress	Monthly, 1st	Popular magazine, general articles, matters of the moment, prize competitions, correspondence, chess, home supplement.
Literary Journal	Monthly, 10th	Literary, scientific, artistic and political review.
Braille Musical Magazine	Monthly, 20th	Deals with all matters of interest to blind musicians.
School Magazine	Monthly, 15th	Reading matter for schools. Instructing and amusing. Competitions.
Massage Journal	Monthly, 10th	Devoted to professional interests of qualified masseurs and masseuses.
Channels of Blessing	Bi-monthly from Feb.	Devotional magazine.
<i>(b) Published by the Institute for Customers.</i>		
Weekly Summary	Wednesday	Short summary of the world's news.
Braille Packet	Monthly, 19th	General articles, chiefly political.
Santa Lucia	Monthly, 6th	Short articles and serial story.
The Light Bringer	Quarterly from March	Theosophical magazine.
The Seeker	Quarterly from January	Christian Mysticism and Comparative Religion.
The Tribune	Monthly, 25th	General, and Official Organ of the National Union of the Professional and Industrial Blind.
2. MOON.		
<i>(a) Edited and published by the Institute.</i>		
Moon Newspaper	Wednesday	A resumé of the world's news under Countries with American Supplement.
Moon Magazine	Monthly, 1st	Short articles, light fiction, humour.
<i>(b) Published by the Institute for Customers.</i>		
The Lutheran Herald	Quarterly	Lutheran devotional magazine.
3. INKPRINT.		
<i>Edited and published by the Institute.</i>		
The Beacon	Monthly 1st	Deals with all subjects relative to the welfare of the blind.

them. . . . A big fire, a good chair, and a Moon-type book—and it may rain or it may snow!"

Embossed Magazines and Newspapers.

Blind people love periodicals. (See page 31.) Indeed, we should like to publish many more. But it is impossible to add to the existing number without affecting the output of Braille books.

A complete descriptive list of all periodicals in the two embossed types, Braille and Moon, published by the Institute is given above.

We give below two extracts from a great many letters received from contented subscribers:—

"Once again I desire to express great thanks and

appreciation of your efforts to make your periodicals of interest. I wish you every success in the future, with the assurance that your work is well worth while, as it is largely by your efforts that the blind are kept in touch with the topics of the day, both social and educational."

"This little note is to tender my grateful thanks for the BRAILLE MAIL which I have received safely during the year. I shall be glad if you will convey to the donor my keen appreciation of this splendid gift. The MAIL is indeed something for the blind to be proud of. The N.I.B. is turning out so many printed books, magazines, etc., that we are apt to forget the times when things were so very different."

Text-books for Students



A voluntary worker preparing at home a Braille text-book for blind students.

Manuscript Books for Students in Braille

An account of how the Students' Library has been formed is given on pages 27 and 28.

Amongst the volumes copied into Braille by voluntary Braille writers and added to the Students' Library during the year were the following :—

- Criminal Law* (Harris).
- Conveyancing* (Gibson).
- Equity* (Snell).
- Political History of England* (Low & Saunders).
- English Historical Literature* (Lethbridge).
- Conflict of Religion in Early Roman Empire* (Glover).
- Miracles of the New Testament* (Headlam).
- Critical Introduction to the Old Testament* (Buchanan Gray).
- Mens Creatrix* (Temple).
- Percy's Reliques of Ancient English Poetry*.
- Old English Grammar* (Wardale).
- Confessio Amantis* (Gower).
- Les Croisades* (Michelet).
- Jeanne d'Arc* (Michelet).
- Inferno of Dante, with translation*.
- Italian Grammar* (Sauer).
- Anglo-Saxon Verse Book* (Sedgefield).
- Psychology* (Martin).
- Fundamentals of Child Study* (Kirkpatrick).
- Literary Middle English Reader* (Cook).
- Biographia Literaria* (Coleridge).

Psychology of Childhood (Norsworthy and Whiteley).

Regional Geography of the World (Brooks).

Mathematical Theory of Electricity and Magnetism (Jeans).

Voluntary Writers.

No praise is high enough for the work of the voluntary writers. No matter how difficult a book may be or how urgently it may be needed, there is always someone to undertake it.

A few of our most valued workers have been obliged to relinquish their voluntary task through illness or death. We very much miss two of our oldest friends : Dr. Taylor, who has been connected with the Institute for nearly thirty years and had to give up Braille through failing health, and Mr. Shimmwell, who died suddenly some months ago. He had worked for the Institute for more than twenty years.

At the moment we have more than 150 volunteers, but this number is not sufficient for our needs. Were it not that some of our friends take on two or three books at a time, we might often be in difficulties to satisfy the demand. We have added members to our voluntary staff, and they are doing exceptionally well. Their standard of Braille is very good, and we are indebted to our old friend Colonel W. P. Saunders for training them so well.

130 candidates have entered for the Braille examination during the year, 37 of whom obtained certificates of proficiency.



Blind girls at Chorley Wood College reading Braille books in the beautiful grounds.

4,000 Musical Works in Braille

Teaching Braille.

A number of people losing their sight have been taught to read Braille by a blind worker in the Department. For the most part they are people waiting to be trained in some suitable occupation, and it is most essential for them to be able to read Braille. Again we have to acknowledge our indebtedness to Colonel W. Elliot, C.B., for his continued help in this work.

Many examination papers have been copied in Braille for various Universities, and a number of letters have been undertaken on behalf of the blind and their friends who can see.

Some idea of the value of Manuscript work and the Students' Library can be gathered from the

Music in Braille.

The output of Braille Music has been maintained, and the revised and entirely re-arranged catalogue, published during the year, contains a list of over 4,000 works. As our new Book Catalogue guides the Braille reader, so does this new Music Catalogue provide the blind musician, music teacher and student with useful information and suggestions as to choice.

The Publications Sub-Committee has, as heretofore, been assisted in its selection of music by the advice of the many distinguished musicians on our Music Consultative Committee. The following extracts from many letters received during the year prove that the selection is appreciated.



International Congress on Braille Music Notation, Paris, 22/29 April, 1929

Names of Delegates (L. to R.):—Herr Czychy, Herr Reuss (Germany); Signor Fornasa (Italy); Mr. Mayhew, Mr. Watson (England); Mr. Rodenberg (U.S.A.); Miss Regnier, M. Raverat, M. Dupas (American Braille Press); M. Blasy, M. Clavers (Paris)

following extracts from letters received from students:—

"I scarcely know how to express my sense of the beneficence of your Library. I only know that without the strenuous exertions of the MS. Department, my course at Manchester would have been well nigh impossible. As it is, it has terminated successfully with a second class Honours Degree."

"I am hoping to send you a small donation towards the Students' Library; I think the work is splendid."

"I appreciate most highly your kindness in despatching the books so promptly. They will, I am sure, serve my purpose most admirably."

"The existence of such an organization gives us the feeling that we can go right ahead with our studies and that we shall not be hindered by lack of books or delay of any kind. This is a very encouraging and hopeful situation. Everything is done that a Library can do, and I, among many, am extremely grateful."

Prof. Granville Bantock, M.A., D.Mus., the distinguished composer and Principal of the Birmingham and Midland Institute of Music, wrote: "It is a wonderful record . . . a Braille Music Catalogue of over 4,000 selected works."

Thomas Marshall, A.R.A.M., L.R.A.M., the well-known blind Concert Pianist, stated:—"You have been putting out some fine stuff lately."

Irby Chapman, A.R.C.O., a blind musician, wrote:—"May I, as a humble organist and teacher of music, take this opportunity of expressing my appreciation of the splendid work the Institute is doing. It is truly possible in these days for a blind man to practice as a musician. . . . Too great praise cannot be given you who have moved with the times."

A particularly interesting incident in the music production of the year was the transliteration and issue of the ten pieces of music selected for the National Piano Playing Contest, 1928, organized

The Braille Centenary

by the *Daily Express*. After due permission was obtained, all pieces were ready in Braille for blind competitors in less than three weeks. This feat demonstrated that the Institute, as a Publishing House, can rise to the most exacting demands made upon its highly trained staff.

International Congress in Braille Music Notation.

An event of first importance in the history of Braille Music occurred in the early Spring of 1929, when an International Congress on Braille Music Notation was held in Paris.

Five Countries sent delegates to the Congress, namely, England, the United States, France, Germany and Italy; while nine other nations agreed to abide by their decisions.

Under the Presidency of Mr. George L. Raverat, Secretary-General of the American Braille Press, the Congress set out to consider how the differences which exist in different countries between the symbols used in Braille music notation could be reconciled so as to create an internationally accepted uniform system for blind musicians throughout the world. The will to agree was conspicuous, and we are happy to report that definite and decisive results were achieved. The basis of agreement was very largely the system established in England as a result of the National Institute's *Key to the Revised Music Notation*, which was published in 1922 (see page 31). A few differences on minor points will persist as alternatives for a few years, but the main task has been accomplished.



The blind organist learns his music from Braille transcriptions.

On the return of our representatives from Paris their report was approved by the Publications and Research Committee, and soon after ratified by the Council of the National Institute. Henceforth, blind musicians of every nationality will be enabled to read and understand music in Modern Braille Notation, no matter in what country the work is published. Thus, in due course, they will have access to a vast range of music—an incalculable benefit to all blind music lovers, whether students, amateurs or professional musicians.

We wish to put on record our gratitude to Mr. Edward Watson and Mr. P. T. Mayhew, our representatives, whose conspicuous ability and outstanding knowledge of the whole subject has been generously recognized by Mr. Raverat and all members of the Conference.

The Braille Centenary.

This year, 1929, is the Centenary year of the invention of Braille writing and printing. It is peculiarly interesting to lovers of music, inasmuch as it was a blind musician—Louis Braille—who solved the age-long problem of providing the blind with an adequate means of reading and writing. While trying to invent and emboss signs representing musical notes, Louis Braille hit upon that scheme of embossing now named after him by which words and numerals can also be represented.

The Institute has celebrated the Centenary by asking all lovers of music throughout the Empire to join in an act of thanksgiving. As the blind now share with those with eyesight the ability of acquiring knowledge through print, it has been suggested that the most appropriate way of celebrating the Centenary is for musicians and others to arrange performances, during the Centenary season, of the whole or part of Mendelssohn's Cantata "The Hymn of Praise," written in 1840 to celebrate the 400th anniversary of Gutenberg's invention of printing. These performances will be in aid of the Institute's publishing work.

The suggestion has already been adopted by many Choirs and Choral Societies, and the Press at home and abroad have greeted the idea with enthusiastic commendation—so much so, indeed, that there can be few people now who are ignorant of Louis Braille and his great legacy to the blind throughout the world.

A Great Loss and a Great Gift

A description of Braille type and what it means to the blind is given on pages 29-32.

General Musical Activities.

We have mentioned the National Piano Playing Contest organised by the "Daily Express," and our speedy production of the pieces. Out of the 20,000 entrants, 150 were blind, of whom 10 achieved distinction. One blind candidate, Mr. Alec Templeton, L.R.A.M., aged 18, emerged as "runner-up" in the highest grade at the final contest held in London. His prize was a Grand Piano; he also gained one of the two Special Diplomas awarded to the two best competitors in the Senior Grade.

In the Semi-Final (or "Area") examinations, several blind candidates were awarded the highest marks in their respective areas and a prize of an Upright Piano, with a Certificate of Merit.

At Christmas, many clergy of all denominations, organists and choirmasters, and carol parties again arranged for carols to be sung in churches and districts in aid of the Institute's funds, which were substantially benefited.

During the year, 47 Recitals, Lectures and Concerts were given in connection with the National Institute's Recital Scheme. To most programmes blind singers contributed solos, and thereby other engagements were frequently obtained. Many of the singers have broadcast during the year.

Organ Recitals and Concerts have been given monthly during the year in the Institute's Concert Hall. Blind candidates for R.C.O. examinations have continued to enjoy free practice on the Institute's organ (*see page 34*). It may be noted that the percentage of successes among the blind at these examinations is much higher than among candidates with sight.

The staff of the Institute, and many of the blind from other Institutions in London, are greatly



Last year, "Sunshine House," Chorley Wood, was burnt to the ground, but the babies are now at Court Grange, the gift of the Rev. A. T. Dence.

indebted to Mrs. Flannery and her Company for the excellent series of Readings from Modern Plays, given from October to April.

Qualified pianoforte tuners have been sent to all parts of London to fulfil orders, and contracts for regular tunings have often followed.

Homes for Blind Babies.

It is not often in these Reports that we have to record so disastrous an event as the destruction by fire, in September, 1928, of "Sunshine House," Chorley Wood, Herts., the first Blind Babies' Home established by the Institute. Providentially, no lives were lost, but the distressing end of the parent Home, a Home which had echoed to the voices of happy babies and held so many memories of little lives moulded into sunny childhood, was a grievous blow to all of us.

Fortunately, consolation was almost immediate. An appeal made, through the kindness of the Press, for the loan of a house as a temporary home

"Sunshine" Babies



Christmas Day is the Babies' Festival, and the excitement when the "Sunshine" babies find and "feel" their Christmas stockings is intense.

while the Home at Chorley Wood was being rebuilt, brought many most generous offers of help. We eventually accepted the magnificent gift, made by the Rev. A. T. Dence and Mrs. Dence, of "Court Grange," a beautiful house at Abbotskerswell, South Devon. The house was given in perpetuity to the Institute, primarily to supply the immediate need of a home for blind babies, but in the future it may be used, strictly for the blind, for any suitable branch of the Institute's work. It is with the deepest gratitude that we record here our thanks to the Rev. Mr. Dence and Mrs. Dence for their great generosity.

The babies and staff were installed in the new Home during October, but the official opening did not take place until May 16th, when the Home was dedicated by the Rev. Canon C. E. Bolam "to the glory of God and for the service of His children," and a commemorative tablet was unveiled.

We have decided to rebuild the Home at Chorley Wood and the plans for re-construction have been approved.

The following table gives the admissions and discharges during the year ended March 31st at the three Sunshine Homes at Chorley Wood (and Abbotskerswell), Southport and Leamington.

	Chorley Wood.	South- port.	Leaming- ton.	Total
Number in Homes on 31st				
March, 1928	19	31	31	= 81
Add admissions during year	*10	5	8	= 23
	29	36	39	= 104
Less Discharges	6	7	*8	= 21
	23	29	31	= 83
Totals on 31st March, 1929	23	29	31	= 83

* Two children were transferred from Leamington to Chorley Wood.

DISCHARGES—

- 9 Transferred to Residential Schools for the Blind
- 2 Transferred to L.C.C. Day Schools for the Blind.



- 1 Transferred to Sighted School.
- 6 Unsuitable for further retention—mental and physical disabilities.
- 1 "Too much sight."

Below we give brief details of the year's work at each Home.

Sunshine House—Chorley Wood (and Abbotskerwell).

The general health has been good. Fine weather permitted the children to have their meals, rest-hour and kindergarten out-of-doors from April to November. Sun treatment was given in June, July and August.

The change of residence from Hertfordshire to Devonshire took place without any disturbance to health; as the babies were unaware of the fire there were no cases of nervous shock.

The Matron reports that the chief characteristic of the babies is their "normality"; they are just

"Sunshine" Training

like other babies, as lovable, as natural, as good, as naughty!

The elder children are progressing in Braille; two know the whole alphabet. Handwork plays a large part in the kindergarten syllabus. All the children are interested in poetry, singing, nature rambles, marching and free play. They are extraordinarily observant and extraordinarily happy—for they do not know that there is anything missing in their lives, finding in "Sunshine House" all they need as babies—love and guidance.

Sunshine House—Southport.

General progress has been good and health very good. During the summer several children slept out and sun-baths and sea-bathing have been very beneficial.

The babies learn through play, so they love learning. One of the most interesting stages is the beginning of conversation. These little ones are most sociable. They use their small fingers from the earliest months to carry experience to their brains, and then, wish to share them with the big friends around them. They learn to dress and undress—difficult operations—by dressing and undressing dolls. They love the world out of doors—flowers, frost, wind and sea—and are exceptionally keen on weather conditions! Music is a joy to every one of them; compared with children who have eyesight, their hearing is wonderfully acute.



"Sunshine" babies take a healthy interest in engines, rocking-horses, dolls and other toys.



A lovely garden is an ideal spot for a "rehearsal" of the Sunshine Babies' Band.

Sunshine House—Leamington.

Health has been very good, but there are still several babies backward in the ways of learning. Ten of the children are over five, but will be retained until seven as not quite fit for transition, or because their experiences before entering the Home had grievously retarded the normal growth of mentality.

One little girl was born without eyes. All day long she is trying to talk, and she can now say just a few words.

All are very keen to recite, and the articulation of the majority is very clear and satisfactory. Music, songs, poems, or dances are introduced into most lessons. Tunes and words are easily learnt, and there is a constant demand for novelties. The children's aural achievements are excellent and a source of wonder to musicians who visit the Home. At least ten can name any note they hear, the key of a chord whether played in its root positive or first or second inversion, and the key of a piece provided only major keys are used. Eight can sing any note named. Percussion band, games and folk-dancing—all are good.

A general account of the objects of the Blind Babies' Homes is given on pages 24 and 25.

A Public School for Blind Girls



Poultry-farming is very popular at Chorley Wood College.

Chorley Wood College.

The number of pupils at Chorley Wood College for girls with little or no sight is 35. There is accommodation for 45. An account of the objects of the College is given on pages 25 and 26.

Amongst the newcomers during the year were five girls who were formerly at big Public Schools. Owing to partial blindness their efforts to progress were without effect, but now, at Chorley Wood, they are doing good independent work by means of Braille—an essential they lacked at other schools.

A child of five has been taken into the Preparatory School. She promises well and fully justifies the experiment.

The year's successes in Public Examinations were as follows :—

- 2 pupils passed Part I of the National Froebel Union Teachers' Examination, one getting 1st Class in all five subjects.
- 1 preparing for social work, was a successful candidate for St. Christopher's College Sunday School Teachers' Certificate.
- 1 gained the School Certificate of the Oxford and Cambridge Joint Board, with credit in all seven subjects.
- 1 passed the Preliminary Examination of St. Andrew's University, qualifying for entrance.
- 1 passed the Intermediate Grade of Associated Board Local Centre Examination (pianoforte).
- 2 passed the "School" Examination (pianoforte), Higher Division, one gaining distinction.

There have been no failures amongst candidates for Public Examinations.

Amongst Old Girls' successes during the year were :—

- 1 completed an Honours Degree (Class III) in English at St. Hugh's College, Oxford, her object being to qualify

for the purpose of promoting secondary education for blind girls in South Africa.

- 1 passed the Austrian State Examination for Teachers of English.
- 2 passed the Chartered Society of Massage Examinations in Massage and Medical Gymnastics and are now in private practice.
- 1 took part in a B.B.C. programme.
- 1 obtained a good post on completing training in kennel work.

Of the girls who have left during the year :—

- 2 moved on to the Marie Gray Training College to complete the National Froebel Union Teacher's Certificate.
- 1 returned to Oslo to take English as a subject in her Degree.
- 1 left to take a short course in social service training at St. Francis' College, Sudbury Hill.

Apart from studies, the pupils show much energy and enterprise in many directions. Voluntary walks up to 12 miles and running a mile for training purposes are popular. In Sport X—the ball game invented by the Principal—the College team won a match against a Harrow Secondary School team, and a closely contested inter-College team match, "Oxford v. Cambridge," was played on Boat Race Day.

Voluntary gardening is undertaken by nearly all pupils, who have a number of individual beds as well as a communal garden, while poultry-keeping is so popular that the applicants nearly equal the birds!

The School has undertaken to collect firewood from the shrubberies for the aged women in the neighbouring almshouses and to provide handicraft-work for sale in aid of the National Children's Homes.

Another number of the *School Magazine* of original prose and verse has been published, including piano compositions and an account of an amusing Mock Trial and Sharp Practice Debate.

The most memorable day of the year was September 30th when 25 blind babies from the blazing "Sunshine House" nearby were warmly welcomed by staff and pupils alike. Within an hour of the outbreak of the fire, Day and Night Nurseries were established at the College, and the staffs of the Home and the College were settling the bewildered little visitors into their own cots under the new roof. For nearly a month the two

Blind Healers of the Sighted

communities lived side by side and a friendly familiarity sprang up between them. When the babies went to Devonshire, the Chorley Wood girls kept holiday at the Old Vic and the Children's Theatre while the rooms were prepared for normal use again.

The Massage School

During the year ended March 31st, 1929 :—

20 students joined the School.

9 presented themselves for examination in Massage, Medical Gymnastics and Medical Electricity, successfully qualified and duly passed out.

1 took Post-Graduate Course in Medical Electricity and successfully qualified.

1 attended School for refresher course.

Of students who passed out :—

6 have started in private practice.

1 combines a clinic appointment with private practice.

3 have gone abroad—two to South Africa where it is anticipated that hospital posts will be obtained, and the other to Canada.

1 Settlement is at present being handled.

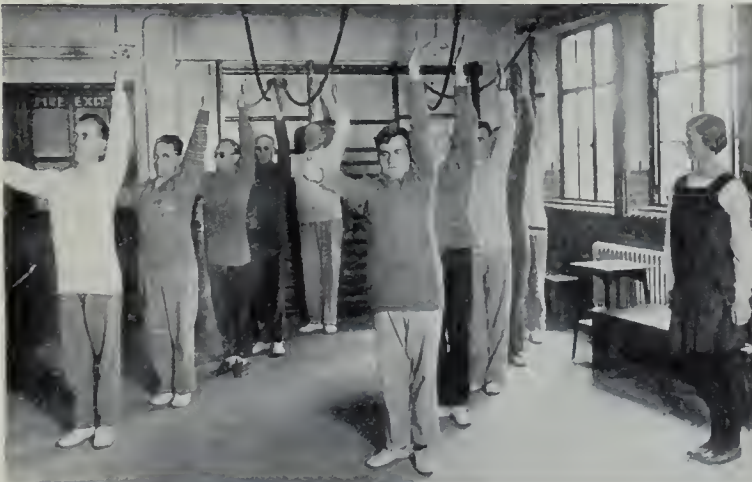
6 Students have benefited from the definite number of scholarships awarded by Gardner's Trust for the Blind.

16 Students are at present in training, including a South African, a Canadian and a New Zealander ; two are old Worcester College boys.

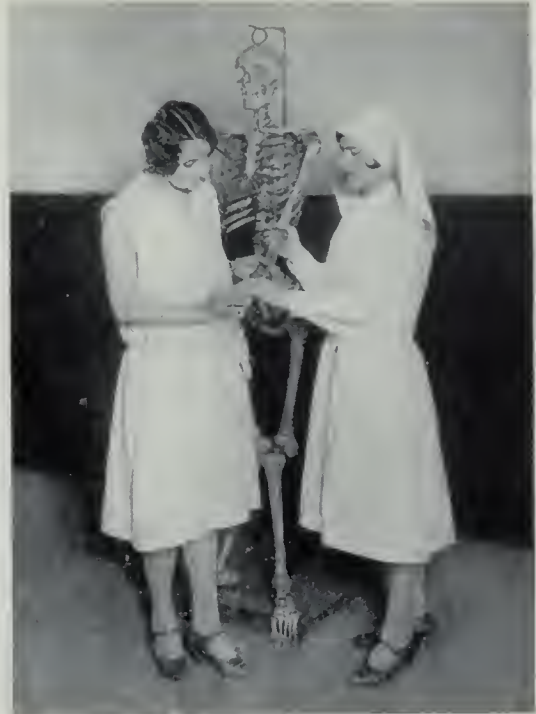
An addition to the School curriculum has been made—a course in educational gymnastics.

An account of the work of the Massage School is given on page 26, of the Massage Department on page 35, and of the Massage Library on page 28.

Following are extracts from letters received



Educational Gymnastics is a feature of the course taken by blind massage students.



Blind teacher demonstrating to a blind student the movements of the bones of the forearm.

from blind chartered masseurs and masseuses :—

"I do not know what we should do without you and your quick and ready response to our many wants."

"I want to thank you and your staff for your very able co-operation and unfailing help, which we fully appreciate. We owe much to you all."

"I know the practical sympathy and sound business side you and your staff always bring into play on our behalf cannot be repaid in coin. Whenever we write to ask for help in our work, back comes the reply by return of post, and we are able to achieve the results we aim at. I am sure that without the co-operation of you all we should often find ourselves in very tight corners."

"During the eleven months that I have been in practice, I have carried out between 500 and 600 treatments. May I thank the Massage Department of the

Havens of Rest

Institute for all that it has done for me and for making this Christmas one of the happiest I have ever known."

"The amount of moral support you have given me and the encouragement of my ambitions and your belief in my capabilities have helped me incalculably, and I always look upon you as my profession's inspiration. Why cannot all blind people, who ache to make good, have a Massage Department to cheer them on the rough and uphill way?"

Homes and Hostels.

Convalescent and Holiday Home,
St. Leonards-on-Sea.

During the year ended March 31st, the following were admitted to the Home:—

201 Women	149 Convalescents
166 Men	185 Holiday Visitors
	33 Sighted Guides
	<hr/> 367 Total

Owing to the severe winter there was a considerable amount of sickness, including epidemics of mumps and influenza.

Many kind friends helped to entertain the guests during the Winter, and Christmas was celebrated with great spirit. The usual dances, concerts and other entertainments have been given.

The Home has lost a very good friend by the death of Canon Risington, while we have lost the services of another kind friend, the Rector, the Rev. A. Alton, who has become Archdeacon.



A round of whist, with Braille cards, is an ideal way of passing the time on a rainy day at the Holiday Home at St. Leonards.

Guest House for Blind Women, Leamington.

Early in the year it was decided to remove the Guest House, for blind women in reduced circumstances, at Hoole Bank, Chester—the gift of Mr. and Mrs. Hayes—to "Bloomfield," a house at Leamington, presented to the Institute by Mr. J. G. Wilson. Accordingly, the removal took place on the 22nd October, 1928.

The average number of guests during the year was 15.

There were many regrets at the removal, as the guests thought they could never be so happy again as they had been at Hoole Bank. But these regrets were shortlived. Every day passes happily at the Guest House, largely owing to the great kindness of Leamington people who take the guests to church, entertainments and for walks. The guests are perfectly free to follow their own inclinations; there is no rigid régime, and each guest passes the day as fancy wills.

The future use of Hoole Bank is now under consideration.

Home for Blind Women, Brighton.

The number of blind women in residence at the Home is 18, 8 of whom are over 70 and 2 over 80. During the year there has been one death.

The women pass their time in knitting, making raffia and cane baskets, and in little odd jobs about the house.

Over forty voluntary helpers are unwearied in their kindness towards the inmates, taking them

for walks, reading and playing to them, arranging char-a-bancs and motor trips, and organising entertainments and flower shows.

Some of the younger women are keen gardeners, take great pleasure in an allotment, and have gained many prizes for vegetables and flowers at exhibitions. Free tickets and passes for concerts and theatres are much appreciated.

Home for Blind Women, Clifton.

The average number of women at this Home during the year was 11.

Unfortunately there has been a great deal of sickness at the Home, and one death, the first since 1917.

The Annual Gift Day took place on the 21st June and was, as usual, a great success.

The blind women have been entertained to tea by several ladies during the year. There have been two or three musical evenings during the Autumn and Winter. Tickets have been received for Theatres and Concerts, and every day visitors arrive who read, play or sing to the women and whose visits are much valued.

The Trustees for the Home are the National Institute for the Blind, Colonel R. W. Awdry, Mr. T. H. Tylor and Mr. G. F. Mowatt.



Blind girl working in a toy factory amongst sighted workers.

Hostels for Blind Women, London.

In June, 1928, another Hostel for Blind Women was opened at 9, Oval Road, similar to that at No. 8. The Hostel accommodates twelve girls, and so far the experiment has been entirely successful.

The girls continue to enjoy making their own arrangements for evening meals. Breakfast is prepared by the Housekeeper.

The Hostels have been full since they were opened.

Personal Services for the Blind.

An outline of the various forms of personal services for the blind undertaken by the Institute is given on pages 27, 29, 33, 34 and 36. Here we give the year's work expressed in figures :—

Augmentation of Wages of Blind Employees ..	£5,526
Training Fees provided	£113
Grants for Higher Education	£2,348
General Relief	£4,171
Relief of Non-pensionable Ex-service Men ..	£2,178
Provision of Wireless Equipment	£819
<hr/>	
Number of Christmas Parcels distributed ..	800
Number of Cases assisted with dentures ..	32

The Department, under the direction of Mr. Ben Purse, takes the utmost care to avoid the mere payment of doles, and aims at setting applicants so far as is possible on their own legs, co-operating in every case with agencies concerned with the welfare of the blind in the area.

Employment.

One form of direct assistance to the blind is their regular employment in carrying out the Institute's work (*see page 34*). During the period under review a sum of £15,126 was paid in salaries, wages, etc., to blind employees who at present number 121.

The total amount paid direct to the blind is shown in the various accounts.

Ex-Service Men's Fund.

This fund is proving an unqualified success. Its scope is described on page 29.

The Admiralty, the Army Council and the Air Council have again identified themselves with the Fund's objects, and another appeal was made during the year to all Units of His Majesty's Forces by Admirals of the Fleet Lord Beatty and Sir Charles Madden; Field Marshals Lord Allenby and Sir William Robertson; Air Marshals Sir Hugh Trenchard and Sir John Salmond. Exceptional help is being rendered by Units and Ex-Officers who have become Annual Subscribers, and by friends in the Empire especially in India, South Africa and Bermuda.

How much this service is appreciated is illustrated by the following letter, one of many received during the year :—

*The Officers' Benevolent Department
17th Dec., 1928.*

Dear Sir Beachcroft Towse,

*Major F. H. Shannons, the
Association's Honorary Representative for Wales, has*

Wireless and Research

drawn my Committee's notice to the case of an ex-officer, Mr. H. H. Griffiths, late Lt. in the Royal Welch Fusiliers, in whom your Association has been interested, and to whom you have rendered generous financial assistance.

As a result of the assistance which your Association rendered to this ex-officer, he has been successful in passing his final examination in Law, though handicapped by complete blindness as a result of the War.

My Committee wish to place on record their deep appreciation of the valuable assistance which the National Institute for the Blind rendered in this case, as they feel that without their help, Mr. Griffiths would have been unable to attain the success which he has now gained.

Yours very truly,
(signed) A. W. Lawrence, Captain,
Secretary, Employment Branch.

Distribution of Wireless Sets.

The distribution of wireless sets during the past year has been thwart with difficulties, partly through lack of funds, partly as a result of the Regional Scheme which shortly comes into force in the London district. It was realised that nothing would be gained by supplying people living in the London area with sets which would be useless as soon as 2LO moved to Brookman's

Park. It was, therefore, decided to prepare, in co-operation with the B.B.C., a scheme which could be put into operation as soon as possible after the change-over is made, so that the listener would be inconvenienced as little as possible. To effect this a considerable sum of money will be required, as the average crystal set—there are about 1,500 in use amongst the blind of London—will have to be exchanged for a more selective type (see page 19).

Up to the present, 1,466 wireless sets and 1,802 pairs of headphones have been distributed amongst the blind with the help of the various County Associations.

Our waiting list for sets is still very large, and applications are coming in daily. Gifts of sets, or donations of the approximate cost of a set, namely, 50s., are, therefore, urgently needed.

Research.

Placement.

The Placement Committee's work during the past year has been of a very far-reaching nature, embracing nearly every sphere of employment in the blind world.

A Psychologist, under the supervision of the National Institute of Industrial Psychology, has been appointed to study all possibilities for the employment of the blind. These can be divided into three sections:—

1. Increasing the openings for the higher educated blind.
2. Increasing the openings for blind manual workers.
3. Examining the working conditions in workshops for the blind.

So far, progress in these three directions is as follows:—

1. The National Institute of Industrial Psychology has visited special schools and colleges throughout the country, and collected data as a basis for experiment. As one of the first results of the close and continuous study given to the problem, the Institute is endeavouring to train a limited number of blind men for insurance underwriting. It is, unfortunately, obvious that the number of professions in which blind persons can earn a living is not large and efforts are therefore being made to increase the openings in those professions which a limited number of blind persons already practice.



The fingers of the blind can "see" the world—its rivers, mountains, countries and cities.

2. It was considered that the wisest plan would be to collect data as to the trades best suited for blind employment and to explore all questions relative to (a) the insurance of blind workers in ordinary factories, and (b) the augmentation of wages of blind workers to those of workers with sight. These are preliminary steps necessary to the successful placement of the blind amongst workers with sight. The collection of data is proceeding steadily both at home and from abroad where, owing to easier employment conditions, the blind have gained a better footing in the general industrial world.

3. Thanks to the hearty co-operation of Workshop Managers, research into existing working conditions in certain workshops for the blind has been begun. Such research aims at discovering whether methods of production can be improved with a consequent decrease of fatigue to the workers and in cost of production. The results have been encouraging. It appears that by the introduction of labour-saving devices and the improved routing of work, as much as 25 per cent. in time can, in some instances, be saved. In a number of cases, team work has been introduced; it is welcomed by the blind employees as a means of widening interests and promoting a healthier outlook.

Technical.

Technical research requires time and expenditure, and progress must always be gradual. Many important investigations are in hand, but at the moment, there is not a great deal to report.

A Braille compass has been made, mainly for the use of blind Boy Scouts. Such a piece of "apparatus" for such a "class" of blind people affords an illuminating glimpse into the busy activity and eagerness for knowledge in the blind world of to-day.

The problem of designing a reproducer of Braille manuscript books is still receiving attention; at the present time, a model is being constructed which certainly looks more promising than its predecessors.

The question of re-designing crystal sets in the areas affected by the B.B.C.'s adoption of the Regional Scheme, with other technical matters relative to the use of wireless by the blind, is being examined, much valuable help being afforded by officials at the B.B.C.



Please "Buy from the Blind" all mats, brushes, baskets, etc., you require. A motor van tours the Home Counties.

Home Industries.

Since its inception six and a half years ago, the growth of the Home Industries Department (*see page 35*) has been remarkable. Its progress is shown by the following comparative figures:—

	No. of Home Workers.	Value of Goods purchased from the Blind	Augmentation paid to Blind
1923	69	£4,595	nil
1928	231	£7,338	£3,611

During the year the Department was moved to larger premises at 31, Holmesdale Road, Reigate. This has enabled us to open a retail shop for the sale of blind workers' products, and has provided more ample storage for raw materials and finished goods. In the Mat Department, shearing and balling machines have been installed.

In the course of the year we have lost Mr. Arthur Platt, who has been Superintendent of the Home Industries Department since its inception in 1922. Mr. Platt's services to the blind through the Home Industries Department have been distinguished and our best wishes go with him in his new capacity as Secretary and Manager of the Hull and East Riding Institute for the Blind.

Despite trade depression, trading activities have prospered, the total value of goods produced by home workers and sales exceeding that of any previous year.

The following figures relative to the year's work are of interest:—

Goods purchased from Blind Home Workers by the Institute	£4,673
Goods purchased from Workshops for the Blind by the Institute	£2,715
Materials purchased for Use of Home Workers	£2,453
Provision of Tools, etc., for Home Workers	£306
Gifts of Materials to Home Workers	£250

Goods Made by the Blind

Adding to these figures sums paid in salaries and wages, special allowances, etc., it will be found (*see page 45*) that a total sum of £11,224 was paid to, or expended on, the blind workers covered by our Home Industries Scheme.

Earnings of blind home workers have been supplemented from grants amounting to £3,466 made by County and County Borough Councils, on whose behalf the Institute conducts the Scheme.

Many Exhibitions and Sales of Work have been held during the year and, mainly owing to local support and assistance, have been uniformly successful.

Portland Street and at Reigate, and delivery vans periodically visit all parts of Surrey, Sussex, Kent and Hampshire. A representative will be pleased to call at any address on receipt of a post card which should be addressed to the Home Industries Department, 31 Holmesdale Road, Reigate.

Sales.

The Institute's Sales Department is not only responsible for the sale of articles made by the blind but also for the sale of embossed books, music and apparatus for the blind. It provides the blind with articles for their own use, and



At the showrooms of the National Institute for the Blind, 224, Great Portland Street, London, W.1, all goods made by or for the blind are sold. Visitors are cordially invited.

Public Authorities, Boards of Guardians, manufacturers, and the general public have all supported the blind workers by placing many orders with us, and we hope that the quality of the goods supplied will result in repeat orders in every case.

"Buy from the Blind."

We ask all readers of this Report who may, from time to time, require brushes, baskets, mats or knitted goods, to make a point of purchasing them from the blind. A wide variety of goods is on view at the Institute's Headquarters in Great

affords a means of selling goods made by them for the use of others.

The sale of embossed books and periodicals and apparatus has been well maintained, and large consignments have been sent to schools and institutions in Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, India, China and the United States of America.

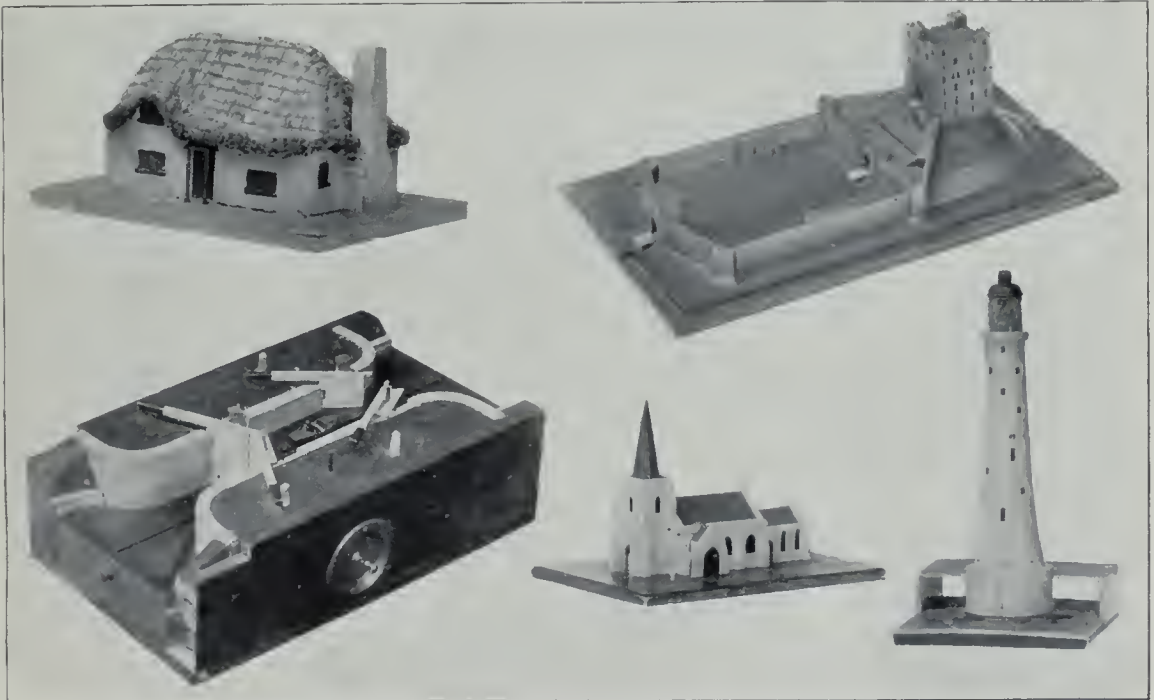
Apparatus.

Sales of the Stainsby-Wayne Braille Writer, which is a great boon to blind people, have increased very considerably during the year. It is becoming more widely known, and its quickness

Models and Apparatus

and easy action make the writing of Braille speedy and facile. None the less, improvements in the machine can be made, and the Technical Committee of the Institute is now engaged in examining the machine with a view to its perfection. The new apparatus introduced during the year has been very welcome, and such articles as the diagram board and the new series of maps have sold widely. In the games section, the jig-saw and cross-word puzzles have proved a great attraction. The Institute also has a series of educational models, which are loaned to schools on request.

been performed for years past by the Institute's Chaplains. During the year under review steps have been taken to strengthen our propaganda work in this direction and we are happy to announce that the Rev. Canon C. E. Bolam, F.R.Hist.S., has accepted the appointment of Honorary Chief Chaplain to the Institute. Canon Bolam was educated at Worcester College for the Blind. He is Vicar of Greatford, near Stamford, Lincolnshire, and is a member of the Institute's Executive Council. Under his leadership and backed by his authority the Institute's Chaplains will be able more effectively to



Models are the pictures of the blind, and teach them the structure of a cottage, a medieval castle, a river lock, a church, a lighthouse, etc.

The Institute supplies any blind person in a workhouse, proved to be in need, with games, etc., free of charge.

Information Bureau.

Much information has been received and recorded in the Information Bureau during the year, and many requests for information on Braille, foreign codes, foreign publications in Braille, etc., have been received. Information in foreign languages is translated by volunteers for inclusion in our files.

Chaplains' Department

Valuable propaganda work for the blind has

interest the public in our work and, we hope, to minister more readily than in the past to their blind fellow countrymen.

Henry Stainsby Memorial Fund.

This Fund, which perpetuates the name of Mr. Henry Stainsby, late Secretary-General of the Institute, and is managed by the Institute, has an income of £63 per annum, which is expended on gifts to pupils who have completed their training in recognized schools and colleges for the blind. The gifts take the form of watches, Braille type-writers and embossed books which will be specially useful to the blind.

Administration of the Institution

College of Teachers of the Blind.

Since its foundation in 1907, the Institute has assisted the College by providing accommodation for its meetings and clerical assistance free of charge. The Assistant Secretary of the Institute acts as Honorary Registrar of the College.

The College has done, and is doing, valuable work in the education of the blind. It has raised the status of teachers of the blind in a marked degree, and insists on the maintenance of a high standard of proficiency. It conducts examinations for School Teachers and Home Teachers, and has, during the past year, inaugurated examinations for Craft Instructors and for Pianoforte Tuners and Repairers. The certificates awarded as a result of these examinations are recognized by the Board of Education and the Ministry of Health.

Blind Workshops' Conference

A Conference of Representatives from Workshops for the Blind was held at the National Institute on January 8th and 9th, 1929. It was convened by the Institute at the instigation of the Advisory Committee on the Welfare of the Blind, and had the support of the Ministry of Health. Its purpose was to deal with the higher technicalities of management.

Practically all the leading workshops for the blind throughout England and Wales were represented, and the Conference was especially fortunate in having as its Chairman, Sir George Hume, J.P., and in having in attendance a number of experts, including Mr. F. R. Lovett of the Ministry of Health and Dr. A. Eichholz of the Board of Education.

The main subjects discussed were trading accounts, the effect of the Local Government Bill on workshops for the blind, research and industrial development, sales and salesmanship, the management of workshops, and tools and equipment for home workers. The interchange of experiences and views was useful and enlightening, but perhaps the most valuable result of the Conference was the formation of an Association of Workshops for the Blind. This Association, it is hoped, will be capable of dealing with all industrial matters in the world of the blind as competently and as usefully as the College of Teachers deals with all educational matters.

Country Holidays For Blind Children.

The Institute has made various attempts in the past to help blind children to get country holidays, and we are happy to report that a big step forward has been taken this year. Thanks largely to the help of Miss Jean Robinson, who herself conducts

a camp for blind girls at the country headquarters of the Girl Guides' Movement in Hampshire, we have obtained the most kindly co-operation of the Girl Guides' Association. Our suggestions were also most sympathetically received by the Boy Scouts' Association and by the Children's Country Holiday Fund. As a result we have been able to arrange to send more than 60 children away to the country for periods from a fortnight to a month.

The arrangements made this year are capable of extension and we have every hope that in the course of the next year or two they will ensure that there is no blind child capable of benefiting by a country holiday who is debarred from such a holiday, either by shortage of means or by lack of available accommodation. As this service means additional cost to the Institute, contributions specifically for this object will be welcomed.

Council and Committees.

It has recently been decided that the number of members of the Institute's Executive Council should be increased from 36 to 50. This increase, we believe, will serve to widen both the character and the influence of the Institute's work.

That work is now directed by three Main Committees and numerous Sub-Committees and Consultative Committees. The names of the present members of these Committees are given on page ii.

When the Committees were thus re-organized, the former Standing Committee naturally came to an end, and its Chairman, Mr. G. F. Mowatt, became Chairman of the General Purposes Committee. It is with great pleasure that we extract from the Council's Minutes the following unanimous testimony to his services :—

"That this Council record its great appreciation of the services of Mr. G. F. Mowatt as Chairman of the Standing Committee for seven years during which many important developments have taken place, and of his devotion to the interests of the Institute and to the blind at large."

Reorganization of Administration.

The plans for the reorganization of the Institute's internal administration mentioned last year have now been put into force. Considerable economies have already been effected, and we have every confidence that, as the plan of reorganization is worked out in full, the Institute will be able to carry on its extensive and complicated work with ever-increasing efficiency.

Two features of the scheme are of general interest outside the office.

The first is the formation of a Works and Office Council on the lines of those Works Councils which many big industrial concerns of to-day have adopted to the great betterment of industrial relations. The Institute's Works and Office Council represents all grades of its employees, both sighted and blind, and should be of great value in enabling the Council and staff of the Institute to co-operate wholeheartedly in their work for the blind.

The second is the establishment of a five-day week for the Institute's blind employees. This innovation is at the moment "a controlled experiment," that is to say, the effect of the shorter working week on output is being carefully watched, as we do not feel that it would be right to give a privilege to the staff of the Institute if in any way it lowered production or raised the cost of the Institute's work. At the time of writing this Report there is good reason to believe that the weekly output of the blind members of the staff—who appreciate the change and are visibly benefiting by it—will be fully maintained. That is in accord with experience in many industrial concerns, where shorter working hours have actually led to increased output, and the adoption of the five-day week by the Institute's works will be of interest, not only to all friends of the blind, but to many students of industrial questions.

Roll of Honour.

In view of the growing number of outstanding scholastic achievements by blind men and women, we have decided to prepare a Roll of Honour which will be suitably exhibited in the Armitage Hall at the Institute's Headquarters.

Obituary.

It is with deep regret that we have to record the deaths of:—

Mr. Guy Campbell, Principal, Royal Normal College for the Blind, Upper Norwood. The greater part of his life was devoted to the blind. Under his leadership, the College maintained its position as a great blind educational centre.

Mr. R. G. Cowley, Secretary, Birmingham Institution for the Blind. He was appointed to the position in 1915, and conducted the affairs of the Institution with marked ability. He was also Secretary to the Midland Societies for the Blind, and Chairman of the College of Teachers.

Sir Coles Child, Bart., D.L., J.P., Member of the Executive Council. His life was largely spent in the service of his fellows, and his public and philanthropic activities were numerous. As a representative of the County Councils' Association he rendered invaluable service to the Institute.

Sir Alexander Diack, K.C.I.E., C.V.O., C.B.E., formerly Secretary-General of the National Institute for the Blind.

1926-9. He succeeded the late Mr. Henry Stainsby, but after nearly two and a half years of invaluable and devoted service was forced to resign through serious illness. However, he still kept in touch with the work which so interested him, and quite recently was unanimously elected a member of the Executive Council. He made many friends in the blind world, and those who came into frequent touch with him loved and valued the deep sincerity of his nature. He had a most distinguished career in India, being successively Revenue and Financial Secretary, Chief Secretary, Settlement and Finance Commissioner and President of the Legislative Council to the Punjab Government. During and after the War, he rendered valuable service at the Ministry of Munitions and the Ministry of Pensions.

Mr. John Mulhall, B.L., M.R.I.A., J.P., Member of the Executive Council. After a brilliant career as Private Secretary to the Marquis of Waterford and to two Lord-Lieutenants of Ireland, he lost his sight and was obliged to retire from public service. He then devoted himself to the cause of the blind whom he steadfastly helped.

Sir John Murray, Member of the Literature Consultative Committee. The advice and assistance of so distinguished a man of letters and literary connoisseur were singularly valuable in the selection of books for publication in Braille.

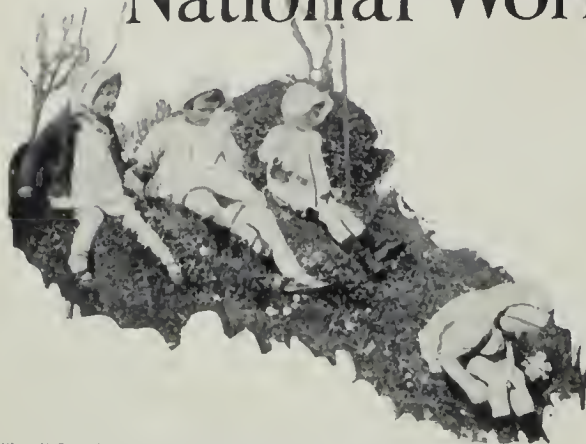
Dr. C. W. Pearce, M.A., Member of the Music Consultative Committee. He was one of the leading music educationalists of his day, and many of his valuable text-books are in Braille.

Sir Washington Ranger, M.A., LL.D., Member of the Executive Council 1901-22. Chairman 1913-22. By Sir Washington's death the blind lost a man of distinction and learning who for over sixty years was closely connected with every effort made for their welfare. He lost his sight at the age of 15, but his courage and will-power enabled him to win a position such had never before been attained by a man blind from youth. He was one of the first three pupils at Worcester College for the Blind, and at Oxford took first-class honours in the Jurisprudence School for the B.A. Degree and, later, in the D.C.L. Degree. He became a solicitor in 1879, and established the now well-known firm of Messrs. Ranger, Burton & Frost. For many years he was Solicitor to the Salvation Army, and rendered great service as honorary solicitor to many societies for the blind. As Chairman of the National Institute he had the honour of receiving Their Majesties the King and Queen at the opening of the Institute's present Headquarters in 1914. He was Vice-President of St. Dunstan's and Chairman of Worcester College. The value of his work for the blind generally, and for the National Institute in particular, was inestimable.

Mr. John E. West, F.R.A.M., F.R.C.O., Member of the Music Consultative Committee. His great experience and fine judgment were always at the service of the Institute, and several of his compositions are in Braille.

Mr. A. E. Wood, Member of the Executive Council. He was an active and devoted worker for many philanthropic organizations. He had the welfare of the blind of Yorkshire especially at heart, and greatly helped to consolidate the happy relationship existing between the Institute and the agencies for the blind in Yorkshire.

National Work for the Blind



The "Sunshine" babies are the progressive blind men and women of the future.

1. Education.

THE education of the blind should begin in the earliest years of blindness—whether during babyhood, in adult life or in old age. In each case, blindness is something new, something outside experience, and, as such, necessarily presents new educational problems.

The Blind Baby.

It is obvious that the education of the blind baby is the most difficult of these problems. If sight is lost in middle or later life, the education to the condition of blindness has past experience and knowledge as a sure foundation. But in the case of the baby blind from birth, there is no basis on which to build, and before 1921 no effort had been made to instil into a mind not without vision the principles of life in a world without sight.

Yet it is again obvious that the first years of existence form the all-important period when the foundations of character and intellect are laid. In nine cases out of ten, those years are the bed-rock of all achievement in after life. Recognizing these undeniable facts, the Institute founded the Sunshine Homes for Blind Babies. These Homes are parents and teachers of a section of the blind population—that section which, never having seen the light of day and unaware of it, need more than all other sections the light of wisdom.

Since its foundation in 1868, the objects of the National Institute for the Blind have been directed along five main lines, namely:—1. Education; 2. Conquest of Blindness; 3. Employment and Occupation; 4. Care of Sick, Poor and Aged; 5. Co-operation. In the following pages the results achieved are summarized.

There are now three Sunshine Homes—one at Abbotskerswell, S. Devon; one at Southport, Lancs.; and one at Leamington, Warwickshire. Each of these Homes is governed by two laws—make the blind baby happy, and make the blind baby see. The first is comparatively easy to enforce. Daily contact with little mites who lack the most precious of the senses yet who possess the charm of babyhood, produces a true affection which seeks every means of expression. Indeed, the affection is so strong that, as with spoiled children, it may be detrimental in effect unless it is tempered by the companion desire of making the blind child able to see.

In the Institute's Sunshine Homes, blind children from birth to the ages of 5 or 7 live in a world of light—the light of love which creates character and the light of experience which creates intelligence. There are bright pictures on the walls because there must be bright pictures in every baby's mind. There are gardens and flowers and sunshine at each "Sunshine House," because these are essentials to the happiness of every baby. It is impossible to enlighten a blind child's mind adequately in the alleys and gloom of a city; even more than other children, the blind child needs the suggestion of beauty in all that surrounds it. Its senses of hearing and touch must do more than listen and feel; they must "see," and every educational method adopted in the Sunshine Homes is based on the necessity of creating thought behind the "touch"

Elementary and Higher Education

Chorley Wood College.

of each little seeking hand on objects, and of each little seeking ear on sounds.

The "Sunshine" babies pass at the age of 5 or 7 from the Homes to elementary schools for the blind, when they are found to be ready to receive ordinary education. This "readiness" is a big asset in any school, not only for the pupil but for the instructor. Backward children often hamper a whole class; intelligent newcomers enliven it. The success of average "Sunshine" babies amongst other blind children is due mainly to the fact that these little people have thoroughly learnt "how to be blind." That, indeed, is the first essential in all education for the blind of all ages. They must adapt themselves to blindness before making use of it to develop the inner vision.

No mentally defective babies are retained in the Sunshine Homes; if they were, the object of the Homes would be defeated. Nevertheless, border line cases are given the benefit of the doubt, and in the Home which is to be rebuilt at Chorley Wood there will be an Observation Ward for those cases which appear to be amenable to proper care and treatment. The Homes are in every sense schools, and in no sense asylums. The "Sunshine" babies are normal children without sight, and the object of the Homes is to give them every chance to become normal men and women who may look back to childhood as a happy memory—a consolation in defeat and an inspiration to conquest.

Blind boys and girls appear to the casual observer to be cut off from almost every pleasure of boyhood and girlhood—consequently from healthy and happy adolescence.

Their activities are certainly more circumscribed, but provided their education is conducted on proper lines, their world is rounded, not angular, and is as rich as other "school day" worlds in good and lasting influences.

Ten years ago, Mr. J. H. Batty generously gave a beautiful mansion at Chorley Wood, Herts., to the Institute. It came at an opportune time for an experiment in education. Worcester College for the Blind, formerly connected with the Institute, had been run most successfully for many years as a public school for blind boys; but blind girls had hitherto no chance of enjoying the opportunities and amenities of college life. Accordingly, the house at Chorley Wood was opened as a college for girls with little or no sight, to be run on public school lines.

If there was any doubt at the time as to the success of this experiment in bringing blind girls within the scope of higher education, such must have been long since dispelled. Not only are the Chorley Wood girls as happy a body of school girls as one could hope to meet, but their scholastic achievements have been excellent and each year they are maintained at a high level.

With the exception of Braille as a means of reading and writing and various other devices for the teaching of mathematics and other subjects,



At "Sunshine House," Southport, the babies have the sands and the sea all the year round.

Special Education



Chorley Wood College gives the blind girl all the amenities of public school life.

the methods of instruction at Chorley Wood College are similar to those at any other College, and the curriculum and the daily life follow the usual standards. As with sighted girls, there is the same *esprit de corps*, the same friendliness and friendly rivalry, the same love of out-of-door games and occupations, the same healthiness, eagerness and freedom from care of youth.

The College is now in its eighth year. It is recognized by the Board of Education and is under the patronage of Her Royal Highness Princess Mary, Viscountess Lascelles.

It is not confined to totally blind girls, but is open for girls whose sight is not good enough to use the ordinary means of reading and writing. Such girls find progress in schools with girls possessing normal sight almost impossible. They are handicapped at work and in play, and have no expert assistance at hand. For such girls, therefore, the College is eminently suited, as what sight they have is freed from strain and so preserved, and sometimes improved.

Scholarships in Colleges such as Chorley Wood and Worcester College for Blind Boys should be available for every blind boy and girl who shows aptitude in elementary schools for a wider scope of intellectual activity.

Colleges such as these are the training schools for those who should lead the blind in the next generation.

School of Massage.

Massage is the ideal profession for educated blind people of both sexes. The secret of a successful masseur is concentration on the work of the hands—hands guided in their movements by the brain behind them and the special knowledge in that brain. No one is better able to concentrate on touch than a person without eyesight, and for this reason blind people are specially gifted masseurs—

masseurs with an extra equipment.

The success of blind masseurs since the establishment of the Institute's School of Massage has been remarkable; throughout the country and in many parts of the Empire, the blind are now fully qualified healers of those with sight—really an astonishing reversal of position.

The Institute's School of Massage, Medical Gymnastics and Medical Electricity, is the headquarters for the training of blind massage students in Great Britain. It is recognized by the Chartered Society of Massage and Medical Gymnastics and approved by the Board of Education.



Junior pupils at Chorley Wood College are as merry and as mischievous as other schoolgirls.

The Principal and training staff attached to the School are all blind; in addition, there are two visiting lecturers, Surgeon-Commander G. Murray Levick, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. who is in charge of the Medical Electricity section, and Mr. P. Jenner Verrall, F.R.C.S., who lectures on Modern Orthopædics, and gives valuable assistance in connection with the Massage Library. Mr. C. C. Worster-Drought, M.D., M.R.C.P., is Honorary Medical Consultant to the School.

Students are prepared for the examinations of the Chartered Society. In addition to the ordinary theoretical and practical class instruction, blind students are able, through the courtesy of the Middlesex, St. George's and National Hospitals, to carry out massage and electrical work on patients under medical supervision. There is also a course in Educational Gymnastics. Arrangements are made for resident students to lead a normal and communal life at hostels receiving residents with sight.

This School of Massage may safely be accepted as the model for any training school for a specific profession suitable for blind people. Its results fully entitle it to be recognized as such. Past students are now leading happy, active and useful lives, earning good incomes, and enjoying independence. The great lesson that the Massage School teaches is that given a profession from which their handicap does not debar them and given the means of learning it, the blind can be as successful and as independent as anyone with sight.

From the above details relative to the education of the blind, it can be seen that it involves three processes (1) instruction in "how to be blind," (2) instruction in general knowledge, (3) instruction in special occupations and professions not debarred them by lack of sight.

Grants for Education and Training.

The Institute cannot hope to undertake all this educational work, but, in addition to maintaining the definite educational establishments mentioned, it does all that is possible to supplement the work efficiently carried out by other institutions. Since the operation of the Blind Persons Act, 1920, it is no longer necessary for voluntary institutions to expend large sums of money on training fees, because county and county borough authorities are charged with the responsibility of meeting this obligation. Circumstances, however, arise from time to time which render it essential for a voluntary institution to



Blind student administering radiant heat treatment in the Electrical Department of the Massage School.

help, and many special cases brought to the Institute's notice are assisted by training grants.

Similarly, the facilities for acquiring higher education are in some measure provided by the State and the Local Authorities, but here again, sums allocated for such purposes are frequently insufficient to meet obligations undertaken, and are therefore, in many cases, augmented by grants from the Institute.

Students' Text Books in Braille.

A service of special value to blind students of every description is the provision of text-books in Braille.

The Institute has three Students' Libraries of Braille Books: 1. For General Students. 2. For Massage Students. 3. For Music Students.

The genesis of all is the same. To obtain specific knowledge a student must have specific books. A student with eye-sight can buy thousands of any type of book needed very cheaply, or can borrow them from libraries. But the blind student is cut off from all these and must depend almost solely on books available in Braille.

To publish Braille Editions of text-books in all branches of knowledge would be an impossible

Special Libraries for Students



A blind man can write a private note to a "pal"—

task. But the Institute, mainly through the invaluable assistance and constant support of a most loyal band of voluntary Braille writers, has undertaken for many years now to provide a manuscript copy in Braille of any text-book or other work, however technical or abstruse, and in whatever language, required by a blind student for purposes of study.

Supposing a blind student requires a text-book on the Insurance Acts or on the Neoplatonists, he applies to the Institute, and the best book on the subject is secured. This is sent to a voluntary Braille writer, who has previously secured the Institute's proficiency certificate in Braille, and he or she immediately goes ahead with the preparation of the Braille copy. The completed sheets are returned to the Institute, read and corrected if necessary by expert blind proof readers, bound in stout cloth covers, and despatched to the blind student with all expedition—on loan for as long a period as they may be needed. The only stipulation is that all books are eventually returned to the Institute—a rule which has resulted in the formation of a most valuable Students' Library, consisting of many thousands of volumes on almost every branch of knowledge from Alchemy to Zoology. All of these can be borrowed, if available, by every *bona fide* blind student for any length of time and free of all charge.

The work of the volunteers is by no means easy. It is fatiguing and difficult, and requires

knowledge and judgment. It does not simply mean copying into Braille line after line of printed words. Charts, notes, dates, side-heads, tables, references, and a hundred other items of "typographical paraphernalia," must be carefully studied in any attempt to convey the true substance and meaning of a book to the blind reader.

Many of the volunteers pay for the paper on which they labour and for the binding which



—and his blind friend can enjoy it, thanks to Braille.

guards the fruit of that labour from damage. It is essential that the bindings of these books are stout as they travel all over the world and are handled by scores and scores of students, all seeking knowledge in those tiny embossed dots—mere "pinheads" to the ordinary observer.

A single volume produced by a voluntary Braille writer represents an approximate cash value of over £2. Multiply this by a figure representing the value of the book to each blind person who studies it, and some idea of the enormous value of the work of these devoted volunteers may be obtained.

The Massage Library has been built up on somewhat similar lines, although the selection of works has been regulated more by the instructors than by the students themselves. Additions are constantly being made of works, articles, lectures, etc., on modern methods of treatment in respect of massage and kindred subjects. All works are lent gratis to students in training and to practising masseurs and masseuses.

The Achievement of Louis Braille

The Music Students' Library is a recent innovation. It consists of specially selected music and books on technical subjects connected with music needed by advanced students in theory and practice. The manuscript copies are prepared by honorary Braille music writers who must necessarily be experts in music and Braille music notation.

Training of Blind Ex-Service Men.

One more activity of the Institute calls for attention under the heading of "Education," that is, the Fund initiated by the Institute some years ago, mainly for the training of Blind Ex-Service Men who are ineligible for assistance from St. Dunstan's. This Fund operates either directly to individuals studying such professions as law or massage, or through local agencies for the blind where the men are undergoing training in such occupations as basket-making, mattress-making, telephony, etc.

There have been happy results of the training afforded through this Fund, which is in charge of the Institute's Chairman, Captain Sir Beachcroft Towse, V.C. Two men have recently passed final examinations in law; one ex-soldier helped by the Fund has just been called to the Bar, and another is achieving success at Cambridge University. A number of men have been placed in small businesses, and are without exception making satisfactory progress.

The blind dependents of ex-service men are also helped by this Fund; the blind daughter of a blind officer has recently been set up in her own Massage clinic.

The Fund also supplies relief to certain cases, but this is apart from Education and is mentioned elsewhere.

The Blind Babies' Homes, Chorley Wood College, the School of Massage, the three Students' Libraries, and financial grants for specific training and higher education are the principal activities of the Institute which may be definitely described as educational. But, in a sense, all the Institute's work is educational in character, as further details of other activities will show. In fact, the education of the blind is very largely dependent on the means and methods which have been devised to help the sightless—the weapons that have conquered blindness.

2. The Conquest of Blindness.

ONE hundred years ago the blind were more or less ignored by the rest of the world, and lived, for the most part, in a state of ignorance and misery. They had no means of acquiring knowledge and they were almost entirely dependent on alms.

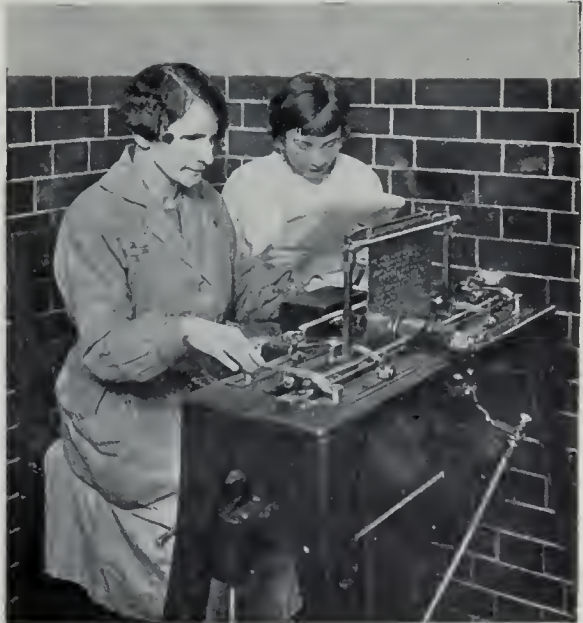
To-day, blind people of all classes are actively engaged in many professions and occupations, earning a livelihood, and mixing with their fellow human beings as equals in intellect and partakers of the social life.

In other words, during the past hundred years, blindness has in many ways been conquered. The blind to-day can do innumerable things which, a hundred years ago, they never even hoped to do.

Embossed Books in Braille Type.

The leading force in this successful onslaught against the domination of blindness over human brains has been the art of embossed reading and writing invented by Louis Braille in 1829.

The Braille system was introduced into England by Dr. Armitage, who founded, in 1868, the British and Foreign Blind Association—mainly for the production of books in Braille type. This Association is now the National Institute for the Blind, the largest publishing house for the blind in the world.



All of the Institute's Braille publications are stereotyped by blind operators.

How Braille Books are Made



The blind are very handy in the Bookbinding Department ; they are exact and methodical workers.

The Braille alphabet consists of different combinations of six dots, arranged like the dots of a domino. There are 63 possible combinations, and after the letters of the alphabet have been supplied the remaining signs are used for punctuation marks, contractions, etc. There are numerous contractions in Braille, more or less similar in principle to those used in the various shorthand systems ; their value, of course, is their economy in space. In present-day Braille production, the characters are embossed on both sides of a page, the dots on one side falling between the horizontal and perpendicular lines of dots on the other side.

In the early days of Braille printing, all embossing had to be done by hand—a most laborious process. The embossing presses at the National Institute to-day are able to produce 24,000 Braille sheets per hour.

The production by the Institute of a Braille book begins in the Editorial Department. Once a work has been selected by the Publications Committee it is passed to the General Editor who "prepares it for press." Permission for reproduction

in Braille has to be obtained from the owner of the copyright (it is always forthcoming); references to illustrations (if any) have to be modified or deleted ; page references have to be altered ; notes have to be re-arranged or adapted ; and a decision has to be made as to the size and form of the Braille edition. The book is then, with full instructions, passed to the Stereotyping Department.

All the stereotyping machines are handled by blind men and women. The book is read aloud by a reader with sight to the blind operator who punches out the Braille characters on to a folded metal sheet. This is done by means of six keys, like piano keys, each controlling a small steel punch corresponding to one of the dots in the primary arrangement of six dots mentioned above. The metal plate is held in clips between these punches and a plunger. The necessary keys having been pressed by the fingers of the operator, the plunger, worked by a lever, pressed simultaneously with the keys by the wrist of the operator, is forced on to the plate, and the character required is stamped. This operation is repeated until the whole plate is covered with Braille characters.

Each plate is passed to a blind proof-reader who ascertains whether any mistakes have been made ; if so, the incorrect dots are flattened out by hand and the plate passed back for re-stereotyping.

In the Printing Department, the plate is placed on a printing press. A sheet of paper is placed between the folded metal sheets and receives the impression of the embossed dots.



Blind workers check and collate Braille and Moon books, newspapers and magazines.

Importance of Braille Periodicals

The embossed pages are then collated and folded by blind workers and passed to the Binding Department, where blind workers also assist in several operations.

When the book is bound, the name of the work and of its author are affixed in Braille to the side of the book for easy reference by the blind reader.

In this manner, over 3½ million Braille books, pamphlets, periodicals, etc., have been produced by the National Institute.

Manuscript Braille books, such as those in the Institute's Students' Library, are prepared by means of Braille writers manipulated, of course, by hand, and similar in principle to a typewriter.

Every type of book, from works in the classic tongues to the latest scientific treatise, can be, and is, produced in Braille. Every month sees new additions in all classes of literature to the Institute's Catalogue, and the stock of books available fills nearly four miles of shelving in three floors of storage accommodation underneath the ground line of the Institute's Headquarters in Great Portland Street.

Books in Moon Type.

Braille is easily learnt by children and by people who lose their sight in early life. But people who lose their sight in old age find difficulty in learning Braille, mainly because their touch has lost its sensitiveness. Yet this inability to learn Braille does not deprive them of the power of reading; almost everyone of whatever age can easily learn Moon type, a simple embossed variation of ordinary Roman letters.

The Moon Society, a branch of the Institute, is the only producer in the world of books in Moon type. All kinds of literature are represented in the Moon Catalogue, special care being taken to cater for the needs of elderly people.

Embossed Newspapers and Magazines.

One of the chief influences for good in the blind world during recent years has been the production and circulation of embossed periodicals. There is nothing that tends more to accentuate eccentricity or abnormality of any kind



Moon books are frequently set up in type by blind girls from Braille "Copy."

than a solitary life, far away from every social interest and outside the current of the world's affairs. For hundreds of years the blind generally led such a solitary life, and it is no wonder that they were considered by most people as a race apart.

Periodical literature changed the history of the world and it has had a like effect on the history of the blind. Newspapers and magazines bring any man or woman within the range of events, and Braille and Moon magazines and newspapers have brought to the blind knowledge of the past, interest in the present, and vision for the future.

The many embossed journals published by the Institute not only keep the blind in touch with the world in general, but act as mediums for the exchange of views between blind people; they are the organs of a progressive community which, in order to take an active part in society, is seeking every means that may lead to complete victory over blindness.

Braille Music.

In one or two instances complete victory over blindness has been achieved. By the completion of the Braille System of Music Notation, "it would seem"—to quote the words of Sir Landon Ronald—"that for the first time in history all barriers have been swept away from the path of blind musicians, who are thus rendered free to enter unimpeded into that Promised Land of Music in which it is universally acknowledged that they have their own special heritage."

Science in aid of the Sightless

The Braille musical code was invented by Louis Braille—indeed, it preceded the invention of the Braille alphabet. It was quite elementary, however, and no text-book was available on the subject. For many years the subject of Braille music notation was most carefully and exhaustively studied by experts appointed by the National Institute. After many experiments, a Braille Music Notation system was evolved which meets every practical requirement, and ten years of devoted labour were crowned by the issue of the Institute's *Key to Braille Music Notation*, in 1922.

Braille music is produced in exactly the same way as Braille literature, and has exactly the same appearance. The sighted reader "dictates" the music to the blind operator, who translates it into the signs of the Braille Music Notation, which can express every musical sound and harmony from a simple air to a full orchestral score. The sheets are proof-read by the blind and printed as described above.

All kinds of music are represented in the Institute's Music Catalogue from the classics to the latest songs, dances, and examination music.



The secret of the Pyramids investigated after thousands of years by a blind girl.

Apparatus and Appliances.

If the Braille system has been the leader in the fight against blindness, it has been well supported by kindred inventions and other appliances which either eliminate or minimize the handicap.

A personal examination of the apparatus supplied by the Institute is the only way to obtain a thorough knowledge of the scientific and mechanical means of overcoming blindness now available. Only a few of these can be noticed here.

The Stainsby-Wayne Braille Writer is the blind man's pen and ink. With it, he can write anything—from a note, a letter, to a book, a musical composition. With the Stainsby-Wayne Braille Shorthand Writer, the blind can carry out the duties of a shorthand-typist as effectively as a thoroughly trained person with eyesight. Dictation is taken down on a paper ribbon as quickly as in a note book, and transcribed on an ordinary typewriter with perfect accuracy and neatness.

The blind man can carry a pocket book for making notes. He makes them with a pocket Braille frame, guide, and style. There are also frames for ordinary handwriting, for mathematical calculations, and for geometrical problems.

The blind can have their own atlases, and can follow the courses of rivers, cross mountain ranges, and coast continents with their finger tips. In fact, an embossed map gives a far better idea of the physical conformation of a country than any plan on paper. Architecture and the proportions of buildings can be studied in the same way; the blind even have their picture books and books of "colour"—different colours being represented by different textures of embossed surfaces.

The blind can play many parlour games with ease and facility. They can join in any game with playing cards, provided the Braille pack is used—a pack exactly like an ordinary pack except that the value of the card is very delicately embossed in the corner. The Braille signs are quite distinct to the touch of the blind player but almost invisible to the eyes of the sighted player. Other games available for the blind are puzzles, cheery families, noughts and crosses, dominoes, chess, draughts, backgammon, nine men's morris, fox and geese, Russian fives, etc.

Braille watches and clocks, some with special sounding devices, keep the blind in touch with the passage of time; blind masseurs use special galvanometers; there are embossed foot-rules and tape measures; educational models of all kinds of objects and buildings, such as a coal

mine, a river lock, bridges, boats, the Pyramids, St. Paul's Cathedral, animals, etc.; models of internal organs for massage instructional purposes; appliances for geometry and for drawing diagrams; pianoforte tuners' and shoemakers' tools—these are but a few of the many appliances supplied by the Institute which serve as arms and ammunition in the constant "fight against blindness."

Wireless.

But since the invention of Braille no special appliance or piece of apparatus has more influenced the destinies of the blind than the ordinary wireless set. It must be obvious to everybody that wireless has revolutionized the world of the blind. A blind person with a wireless set is as fully able as a sighted person with a wireless set to take advantage of broadcasting as a means of instruction and amusement, and of mingling in contemporary affairs. Wireless can take every blind person, however ill-educated or well-educated, from a loneliness only broken by a few familiar voices, into the midst of a crowd, into the heart of the world's life.

That is, if the blind possess wireless sets, and many, unfortunately, do not. The Institute has hundreds of requests for sets which simply cannot be supplied owing to lack of funds for this purpose.

However, the question of supplying wireless sets, with many cognate matters, is receiving the close and constant attention of the Technical Research Committee, and it is hoped that schemes will eventually be evolved which will bring to every blind person throughout the country the great, the almost incalculable, benefits of wireless.

Technical Research.

Wireless is only one of the many subjects which receive the close attention of the Technical Research Committee. With the aid of science and of scientific experts, the Committee seeks on all sides for new means of overcoming or lessening the difficulties of blindness. It has well been said that the revolution in the blind world which began a hundred years ago is due to continuous research work, the scientific application of its results, and the scientific attitude of mind in those interested in the amelioration of the sightless. The Institute, through its Technical Research



Euclid has no mysteries for the blind mathematician, who solves his problems on a special board.

Committee, does its best to foster this attitude, and to show towards the problem of blindness, the same experience, the same care and the same perseverance as a body of medical men bring to the study of a cure for disease.

3. Employment and Occupation.

THE greatest because most urgent subject for research, however, at the present time in the world of the blind is not so much the scientific alleviation of blindness but the employment of the blind. It has become of such vital importance that a special Committee has been appointed by the Institute to make an exhaustive search for and study of all data relative to the employment of the blind in different parts of the world.

Placement Research.

The main object of such study and research is to find occupations for the blind outside those commonly practised at present and to place blind workers amongst sighted workers in industries heretofore entirely ignorant of the capabilities and possibilities of blind labour. The Committee is working in conjunction with an Appointments Board, on which many leading business men are serving, and with the National Institute of Industrial Psychology, which is making a special study of blind workers and of the industrial conditions affecting them.

A mass of valuable information has already come to hand, and the research work and consequent analysis of possibilities is progressing

The Institute's Blind Employees

rapidly and thoroughly. In addition several blind workers have already been successfully placed in big factories, and are giving general satisfaction in new industries.

Employment at the Institute.

Needless to say, this research work into new employments for the blind has been preceded for many years now, by the actual employment of the blind by the Institute in practically every branch of its activities. To a large extent, also, the policy of the Institute is directed by the blind, as the Institute's Chairman, one of the Treasurers and several members of the Executive Council are blind; thus, being workers themselves, they possess inside knowledge and invaluable experience of the many problems in connection with blind employment.

Amongst the salaried blind officials employed by the Institute are the head of the Department dealing with direct services to the blind, the Institute's organist and musical director, the principal of the Massage School and his assistant instructor. All of the stereotypers are blind, as well as the proof-readers both in the General Publications and in the Manuscript Departments. Blind assistants are in the binding, collating and emblem-making Departments. Blind typists and blind telephonists, blind copyists and blind music writers are employed; and working in different parts of England for the Institute are blind organizers, chaplains, lecturers, canvassers, singers, instrumentalists, etc.

Thus, in advocating the employment of the blind generally, the Institute sets an example by employing sightless people in every possible capacity to carry out its many and various activities.

It has long been the Institute's policy to augment the earnings of all blind employees. This is necessary because industrial conditions do not permit blind employees to earn sufficient wages, either under piece-work or hourly rates of payment, to secure a decent standard of life. As the Institute claims to be a model employer in respect of the blind, it accordingly pays rates of wages as will enable blind workers to discharge the obligations of citizenship.

In addition to employing the blind, the Institute endeavours to promote the interests of the professional blind generally. It is able to do this particularly in connection with blind musicians and blind masseurs and masseuses.

Interests of Blind Musicians.

Music is the blind man's art, and the musical profession resembles the massage profession in its supreme suitability for blind educated people. There are probably more outstanding successes amongst the blind in the musical than in any other profession. This is mainly because of their own inherent genius for music, an art which depends almost entirely on extreme delicacy of touch and hearing, but, in addition, blind musicians are fortunate in having many facilities for following their profession, facilities which are lacking in other professions followed by the blind.

For example, the fine organ in the Institute's concert hall, a replica of that

at the Royal College of Organists, is entirely at the service of blind students for organ examinations. A great quantity of Braille music is constantly available, including test-pieces and text books for all the big music examinations, while the student has the further benefit of the special Music Students' Library.

The Institute is responsible for the publication of an ink-print edition of the works of British



Captain Sir Beachcroft Towse, V.C., K.C.V.O., C.B.E., Chairman of the Institute, and some of his little "Sunshine" friends.

The Blind Home Worker

blind composers, including selected works of high artistic value which have received high recognition from the leading music critics.

Blind concert artists are given engagements whenever possible. These frequently lead to professional engagements of a much bigger financial value. Recitals and concerts are arranged throughout the country, all of which are valuable means of propaganda for the blind musician.

Establishment of Blind Masseurs.

The School of Massage has already been described, but the Institute's service to blind masseurs and masseuses does not end at the completion of a course. The Massage Department deals with the settlement of students on the termination of training and watches over their professional interests in every detail.

The purchase of equipment, appliances and accessories necessary for the carrying out of treatments receives careful and expert attention, and facilities are available whereby masseurs and masseuses may obtain any article required in connection with their work at considerably reduced cost.

The Massage Journal, published in Braille, is a link between the Massage Department and former trainees. In its pages, all matters bearing directly on professional work are brought before the attention of chartered masseurs and masseuses, and it serves also as a means of communication between them and the Association of Certificated Blind Masseurs, of which they become registered members on completion of their training. This Association, under the presidency of Sir Robert Jones, Bart., K.B.E., C.B., F.R.C.S., is registered under the Board of Trade and licensed annually by the London County Council


as an employment agency, and has representation on the Standing Committee for the Blind constituted by the Chartered Society of Massage and Medical Gymnastics and the Central Branches Committee. Under its ægis, it is possible to advertise in the lay press, so that the services of blind masseurs and masseuses may be brought prominently before the medical profession and the public.

Hostels for Employees and Students.

The Institute assists all blind employees and students unable to live at home to obtain suitable accommodation in hostels, etc., and itself maintains two hostels for blind women employees and students at 8 and 9, Oval Road, Regents Park, London, N.W.

Home Workers.

There is one other class of blind worker which the Institute directly assists, and that is, blind men and women working at handicrafts in their own homes.

The whole country is now covered by various Home Workers' Schemes, and since 1922, the Institute has been in charge of the Scheme operating in the Metropolitan district South of the Thames and in the Counties of Kent, Surrey, Sussex and Hampshire. 



The Braille watch is indispensable to every blind person.

Prior to these schemes, the blind home worker was often in a state of isolation, far from a supply of raw material, far from a possible market, and without any means of advertising his goods or finding out and adjusting his output to the current demands of customers. There was generally no room for him in a workshop, and he had to rely for a living entirely on the work produced by his fingers and on chance trade.

The Home Workers' Schemes have entirely altered these conditions, and the scheme managed by the Institute has been very successful.

Care of Sick, Poor and Aged

The services rendered to the blind home worker are briefly as follows:—

1. Provision and maintenance of tools and equipment.
2. Supply of raw materials at cost price.
3. The supervision of the home worker and systematic expert inspection of his work, with a view to the production of saleable goods at competitive prices.
4. Assistance in securing orders.
5. Marketing of goods. The Institute purchases from the worker, pays full price for each article produced, and re-sells to the general public. Thus, the home worker has a constant and not a fluctuating market.

These forms of assistance have enormously benefited the home workers and in addition, widely advertised "goods made by the blind." Exhibitions and sales of work are arranged in different parts of the area covered, which is periodically toured by a motor travelling van. Goods are also for sale at the Institute's show-rooms in Great Portland Street and at Reigate.

Apart from home workers, the Institute also purchases for sale goods made by the blind in workshops situated within the districts covered by the scheme.

Sale of Goods Made by the Blind.

Similarly, at the Institute's Headquarters, all types of goods made by the blind in workshops or at home throughout the country are offered for sale.

Such goods can be broadly divided into the following groups:—mats; knitted and woven articles; brooms and brushes; baskets, hampers and trays; cane, seagrass and rush chairs.

A resolution which should be adopted by everyone who needs such goods is always to "Buy from the Blind."

4. Care of Sick, Poor and Aged.

A PART from the employed blind—who are in a minority,—the blind under training, and the blind who could be trained if there were facilities for doing so, there is, unfortunately, a very large number of unemployable blind. Many of these are sick and aged, and most of them are poor, and how best to help them has ever been a difficult problem for those interested in the welfare of the blind.

Relief through Local Agencies.

For many years the Institute expended large sums annually in direct relief to blind individuals without the bare necessities of existence. But recently, the administration of relief and other

welfare work has undergone changes in consequence of regulations issued by the Ministry of Health, designed to prevent overlapping or duplication of activities. These regulations have been very beneficial, and to-day a very considerable measure of co-operation exists between the Institute and all local agencies for the blind rendering similar services. The direct consequence has been the promotion of a higher standard of administrative efficiency. The most cordial relationships exist between the Institute and the local agencies, facilitating conference on and discussion of all social problems relative to the blind.

The relief services provided by the Institute have proved of great value to local agencies generally, and to blind persons in particular. Although schemes for dealing with the unemployable blind are now operating in many parts of the country, it frequently happens that local organizations are confronted with special cases which do not ordinarily come within the category of unemployables, and are therefore unable to furnish funds to meet the claims of such cases. The Institute gladly co-operates with local organizations in dealing with cases like these, and provides the necessary funds, amounting annually to several thousands of pounds.

Relief grants are also made from the Ex-Service Men's Fund, mentioned above, to cases coming within the scope of the fund—blind ex-soldiers without pensions or other forms of assistance, or who are unable to take advantage of the training facilities afforded.

Christmas Parcels.

Every year the Institute sends hundreds of Christmas parcels to necessitous blind people all over England and Wales, and hundreds of letters of thanks testify to the gratitude of the blind for this little additional help at a seasonable time.

Homes for Blind Women.

The Institute has two Homes for Blind Women—one at Clifton, Bristol, and the other at Brighton. There is evidently a need for such Homes, as these two are always full, and it is difficult to imagine what the lot of the blind women who reside in them would be were they deprived of the homes they have grown to love as havens of peace and rest.

At Leamington, the Institute maintains a Home of a different category. This is a Guest House for blind women in reduced circumstances, but who are still able to lead a more or less independent life.

Imperial and International Co-operation

This Guest House—formerly at Hoole Bank, Chester—has proved a God-send to many aged blind women. Before its establishment, there was no such place in this country, and it is fulfilling a most useful purpose.

Another Home which brings happiness to hundreds of blind men and women every year is the Institute's Convalescent and Holiday Home at St. Leonard's-on-Sea, the gift of the Dickens Fellowship. It has all the characteristics of a jolly Private Hotel or Boarding House at the seaside, and the one outstanding wish of all visitors, whether convalescents or holiday-makers, is to come there again. When possible, accommodation is provided for the sighted friends of blind visitors, who, acting as guides and companions, can make the holidays of the blind very enjoyable.

5. Co-operation.

REFERENCE has already been made to the co-operation between the Institute and local agencies for the blind in the administration of relief. This is but one phase of the general co-operation between all agencies for the blind which has been so marked a feature in the history of the blind during the past few years.

Agreement with Local Societies.

The collecting agreements between the National Institute and the National Library for the Blind on the one side and local agencies for the blind on the other side have not merely simplified the collection of donations and the administration of local and national work, but have brought together those directing local and national bodies and strengthened mutual understanding and good will. For example, from the South Western Counties it is reported that "friendly relationship with societies working for the blind in the South West of England has been furthered and strengthened during the past year by the formation of an N.I.B. Collecting Committee . . . Harmonious working and a general confidence has been the happy experience . . . It is felt that the existing spirit of hearty endeavour will prove advantageous in bringing about a successful co-operative enterprise."

Again, from Yorkshire it is reported that "visits have been paid to areas as opportunity occurred, with the object of explaining fully the benefits accruing from these agreements, and any assistance or explanation which may be required is given by the Yorkshire Committee. By this method, all difficulties are satisfactorily over-

come . . . As a result of negotiations between the Yorkshire Committee and Local Societies and Institutions, not only have collecting agreements been concluded, but a close understanding has been brought about between the N.I.B. and the various local bodies."

These happy results are general, and will surely lead to greater benefits for the blind themselves. The policy of the Institute has always been ruled by the desire to benefit to the greatest extent the whole of the blind community, but never has this ideal seemed nearer realisation than at the present time, when all parties seem to conform to the spirit as well as the text of the agreements they have made.

It is certain, at any rate, that to-day the Institute has a far wider knowledge of local conditions throughout the country, and that local societies have a far wider knowledge of how and in what way the Institute can help work for the blind in their own districts. There is constant inter-communication and interchange of ideas, wants, and facts.

Co-operation throughout the Empire.

This co-operative spirit is not confined to the British Isles. Throughout the whole Empire, the Institute is continually in touch with the leading institutions for the blind and with blind individuals. The Institute's periodicals are an excellent means of discussion and communication, but the exchange of correspondence between the Institute and the institutions for the blind in Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, India, and elsewhere is very large and on entirely amicable lines, each correspondent being eager to render service of any kind.

International Co-operation.

The spirit of co-operation has a wider field even than the Empire. Foreign institutions for the blind in all parts of the world are continually writing to the Institute for advice on every conceivable subject. Letters in Braille or type-written reach the Institute every day in French, German, Spanish, Italian, and from countries so far as China, Japan, the South Sea Islands, and Malaya.

Foreign visitors also arrive almost daily to be shown round the Institute and to learn of every latest device for overcoming blindness.

All this friendly co-operation has had its natural result—it has led to international conferences and congresses, the deliberations of which should prove of lasting value. On these,

Ideals

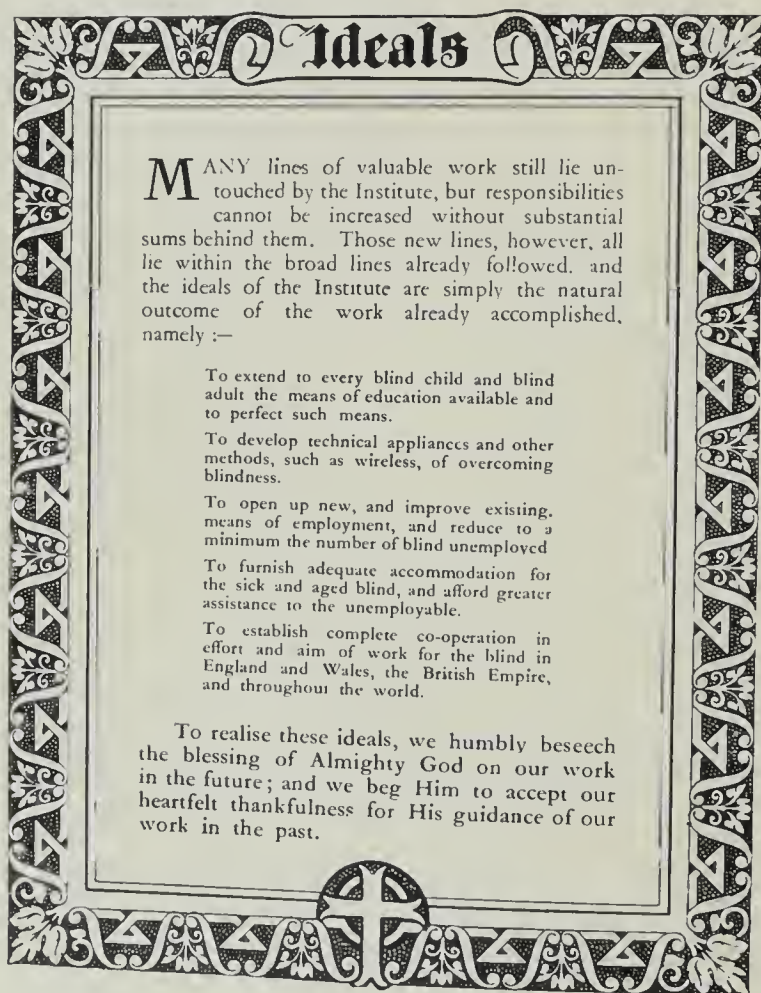
the Institute will always desire to be represented as it is convinced that the path of international united effort and agreement will lead to new achievements and new hopes in the world-community of the blind.

Propaganda.

The growth of the universal spirit of mutual interest and regard is very largely due to the world-wide propaganda which has been carried out, mainly by the Institute, during the past twenty years. Twenty years ago the general public in all countries knew very little about the blind and cared less. To-day, there are few people who are not daily reminded in the Press of the

remarkable achievement of some blind person. Many of these achievements are due to the openings and opportunities provided by the sympathy of the public as expressed in their financial support of institutions and societies for the blind. That sympathy was formerly dormant but it has now been aroused, and the public in almost every civilized country take a deep and active interest in all ameliorative work in aid of the blind.

The institutions and societies for the blind have followed this excellent example. All are now less insular and local, and all now take a lively interest in the work of friendly competitors in the great task of conquering blindness.



MANY lines of valuable work still lie untouched by the Institute, but responsibilities cannot be increased without substantial sums behind them. Those new lines, however, all lie within the broad lines already followed, and the ideals of the Institute are simply the natural outcome of the work already accomplished, namely :—

To extend to every blind child and blind adult the means of education available and to perfect such means.

To develop technical appliances and other methods, such as wireless, of overcoming blindness.

To open up new, and improve existing, means of employment, and reduce to a minimum the number of blind unemployed

To furnish adequate accommodation for the sick and aged blind, and afford greater assistance to the unemployable.

To establish complete co-operation in effort and aim of work for the blind in England and Wales, the British Empire, and throughout the world.

To realise these ideals, we humbly beseech the blessing of Almighty God on our work in the future; and we beg Him to accept our heartfelt thankfulness for His guidance of our work in the past.

STATEMENTS OF ACCOUNT

For the Year ended 31st March, 1929

National Institute for the Blind :

BALANCE SHEET
GENERAL CHARITY FUND
PUBLICATIONS AND APPARATUS
HOME INDUSTRIES
HOMES FOR BLIND BABIES
CHORLEY WOOD COLLEGE FOR GIRLS WITH LITTLE OR NO SIGHT
CONVALESCENT AND OTHER HOMES
ARMITAGE MEMORIAL FUND
ARMITAGE FUND FOR THE EMPLOYMENT OF BLIND WRITERS
LEEDS EMBOSSED BOOKS FUND
BAILEY BEQUEST
SALOMONS BEQUEST
HARRY WEEDON MEMORIAL FUND
THE HENRY STAINSBY MEMORIAL GIFT FUND FOR THE BLIND

Clifton Home for Blind Women, Bristol :

BALANCE SHEET
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

Moon Society :

BALANCE SHEET
GENERAL CHARITY FUND
PUBLICATIONS

LIST OF INVESTMENTS

BALANCE SHEET, GENERAL ACCOUNT

31st March, 1929.

		£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
To Capital Accounts—				By Buildings—			
				Freehold Property—			
				Chorley Wood College	16,707	13	1
				Bloomfield, Leamington	3,093	19	11
				Sunshine House, Chorley Wood ..	1,504	6	2
				Sunshine House, Leamington ..	5,000	4	4
				Sunshine House, Abbotskerswell ..	6,618	4	2
				Convalescent and Holiday Home, St. Leonards-on-Sea	300	18	8
				Hoole Bank, Chester	3,301	5	0
							36,526 11 4
Buildings—				Leasehold Property—			
Freehold Property		36,526	11 4	224-6-8, Gt. Portland Street ..	39,594	7	5
				204-6, Gt. Portland Street ..	39,734	3	3
				30-2, Bolsover Street	300	10	5
				8, Oval Road	1,608	15	4
				9, Oval Road	2,071	16	10
				Sunshine House, Southport ..	5,915	17	0
							89,225 10 3
Leasehold Property				89,225	10	3	
				Furniture Fixtures and Equipment—			
				224-6-8, Gt. Portland Street ..	6,009	5	2
				Sunshine House, Abbotskerswell ..	1,716	7	9
				Sunshine House, Southport ..	2,018	16	5
				Sunshine House, Leamington ..	1,911	5	9
				Convalescent and Holiday Home, St. Leonards-on-Sea	1,747	8	1
				Homes, Branches and Branch Cars ..	10,179	14	2
				Home Industries	780	18	10
				Printing Machinery	4,945	0	8
				Organ	1,657	6	0
				Collecting Machines	971	13	4
				Motor Van and Travelling Shop ..	230	0	0
				Equipment of Home Workers ..	635	6	4
							32,803 2 6
Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment				32,803	2	6	
				Stock as Valued by Officials of the Institute—			
				Publications Account	22,288	15	10
				Printing, Propaganda, Stationery, etc.	4,343	0	8
				Electrical and Engineering ..	113	12	1
				Home Industries	2,516	6	2
							29,261 14 9
Sundry Creditors and Credit Balances—				Sundry Debtors and Debit Balances—			
General Account .. £7,774	7	6		General Account	8,477	3	6
Blind Babies' Fund ..	309	2	11	Blind Babies' Fund	1,828	5	2
National Library for the Blind ..	1,134	11	0				9,305 8 8
			9,218 1 5				
			9,820 12 3				
Carried forward			£168,375 16 4	Carried forward			£197,122 7 6

	£	s.	d.
Brought forward	168,375	16	4

Capital Account—

Investments	92,904	9	2
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Accumulated Funds—

General Account	35,753	3	2
Blind Babies' Fund	9,410	12	4
Ex-Service Men's Fund	417	4	9
	45,581	0	3

This Statement does not include the Institute's liability under its guarantee to the Westminster Bank, Ltd., for an advance of £3,455 2s. 11d. to the Newport and Monmouthshire Blind Aid Society, against which the Institute holds the Title Deeds of "Ffrwd Vale" Chepstow Road, Newport.

During the year the Institute has repaid the Mortgage of £22,750 on 224-6-8, Great Portland Street,

£306,861 5 9

	£	s.	d.
Brought forward	197,122	7	6

Mortgage	100	0	0
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Investments (see pages 54-55)—

General Purposes	38,012	5	0
Specifically Appropriated ..	29,506	1	6
Endowments	25,386	2	8
	92,904	9	2

Cash at Bank and in Hand—

General Account	5,688	12	5
Blind Babies' Fund	8,891	10	1
Ex-Service Men's Fund	417	4	9
National Library for the Blind	1,134	11	0
Harry Weedon Memorial Fund	486	0	9
	16,617	19	0

Cash on Deposit—

Leeds Embossed Books Fund ..	116	10	1
	16,734	9	1

The following amounts have been written off:—

Investments	52	9	11
Freehold Property	1,591	14	5
Leasehold Property	4,762	12	11
Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment	4,876	4	4
	11,263	1	7

£306,861 5 9

G. F. MOWATT } Joint Honorary Treasurers of the
A. J. W. KITCHIN } National Institute for the Blind.

We report that we have obtained all the information and explanations which we have required, and that in our opinion the Balance Sheet at the 31st March, 1929, is properly drawn up so as to exhibit a true and correct view of the state of the Institute's affairs, according to the best of our information and the explanations given to us, and as shown by the books of the Institute.

58 COLEMAN STREET, E.C.2.
28th June, 1929

JACKSON, PINLEY & CO.,
Chartered Accountants.
Auditors.

GENERAL CHARITY FUND

Account for the Year ended 31st March, 1929.

EXPENDITURE		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
MANAGEMENT—							
Salaries and Wages including Insurance		4,434	7	11			
Printing, Stationery, Advertising and Postage		789	9	0			
Alterations, Repairs and Maintenance ..		1,242	4	10			
Rent, Rates, Taxes, Insurance, Telephone, Fuel, Light and Cleaning ..		1,321	4	1			
Travelling and other Expenses ..		1,110	15	11			
					8,898	1	9
MONEY RAISING, INCLUDING SUBSCRIPTIONS, DONATIONS AND COLLECTIONS—							
Salaries and Wages, etc.		14,555	8	0			
Blind Canvassers Wages and Allowances (See Wages, etc., paid to blind Employees below)							
Printing, Stationery, Advertising and Postage		5,654	2	10			
Rent, Rates, Taxes, Insurance, Telephone, Fuel, Light, Cleaning and Repairs		1,831	9	1			
Collecting Boxes, Bazaars, Lectures, etc. Flag Days		2,973	19	7			
Proportion of Head Office Expenses charged to Collecting		1,301	3	3			
		2,527	14	0			
					28,843	16	9
PAYMENTS TO THE BLIND—							
WAGES, ETC.—							
Engaged in Management		312	11	4			
Engaged in Money Raising (including their sighted guides)		10,634	8	8			
					10,947	0	0
ALLOWANCES—							
Augmentation of Wages paid to Blind		5,526	10	2			
Higher Education and Training Fees		2,761	19	8			
Relief and other Expenses on behalf of Blind Persons		11,049	19	4			
Wireless Equipment		819	6	4			
					20,157	15	6
Assignments and Allocations to Blind Societies (See page 4)					21,739	12	6
<i>Total Amount paid direct to the Blind</i>					52,814	8	0
Payments to Blind Societies under Collecting Agreements					1,965	12	11

INCOME		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
LEGACIES—							
Thomas Barningham, Esq.		25	0	0			
Miss S. J. Bazalgette		300	0	0			
John Bee, Esq.		25	0	0			
Miss R. S. Birsell		10	0	0			
Miss Emmeline Brown		180	0	0			
Mrs. Sarah Phœbe Carr		100	0	0			
Miss E. J. Cooper		22	2	4			
Miss E. H. Copland		644	0	0			
William Richard Corke, Esq.		1,017	7	4			
E. O. Curtler, Esq.		500	0	0			
Mrs. Bertha Dalby		20	0	0			
Mrs. Emily Simmons Dunn		896	8	4			
Mrs. Amelia Jane Dutton		2,552	12	7			
Mrs. E. A. P. Gerich		50	10	11			
Mrs. A. Goff		34	14	5			
Miss Elizabeth Golding		10	0	0			
Henry William Hendy, Esq.		1,148	15	4			
Herbert Edwin Jones, Esq.		415	9	9			
Mrs. Rosamond Moore		300	0	0			
Mrs. Margaret Ann Mudie		253	12	6			
Mrs. Penn.		250	0	0			
William Price, Esq.		50	0	0			
Miss Mary Ellen Pritchard		342	13	2			
Miss Matilda M. Reid		9,000	0	0			
William Robson, Esq.		80	4	4			
E. Samuel, Esq.		135	10	3			
Mrs. Kate Sibree		1,029	5	9			
Mrs. Charlotte Sarah Simms		25	0	0			
Tom Gray Snodin, Esq.		500	0	0			
Mrs. A. C. Starkie		400	0	0			
Miss Mary Emily Tayler		20	0	0			
Mrs. Mary Clara Thynne		112	0	0			
Miss Mary Ann Tothill		90	0	0			
Mrs. Julia Tucker		90	0	0			
Mrs. Mary Jane Wakefield		559	13	9			
William Ward, Esq.		22	10	0			
Mrs. Mary Waymark		50	0	0			
Mrs. Margaret White		10	0	0			
					21,272	10	9
SUBSCRIPTIONS, DONATIONS AND COLLECTIONS—							
Subscriptions, Donations and Appeals ..		31,083	9	5			
Collections, including Flag Days		54,471	4	9			
Allocation from Greater London Fund Received from Blind Societies under Collecting Agreements		9,450	0	0			
Donation from Hertfordshire Society for the Blind		6,050	10	6			
		150	0	0			
					101,205	4	8
DIVIDENDS, INTEREST AND RENTS					7,533	14	7

Carried forward

£92,551 19 5

Carried forward

£130,011 10 0

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Brought forward				£92,551	19	5
EXPENDITURE INCURRED IN THE MAINTENANCE AND UPKEEP OF—						
Massage School	3,434	3	4			
Blind Babies' Homes—						
Abbotskerswell	2,854	3	11			
Leamington	2,534	19	3			
Southport	2,742	16	1			
				8,131	19	3
Chorley Wood College				5,788	2	5
Convalescent and Holiday Home, St. Leonards-on-Sea	4,031	3	3			
Guest House for Aged Blind Women, Leamington	1,734	5	5			
Blind Women's Home, Brighton	1,771	6	11			
Residential Club for Blind Women, London	561	8	3			
Hostel 8, Oval Road	251	10	0			
Hostel 9, Oval Road	342	7	6			
				8,692	1	4
				26,046	6	4
NET COST OF PUBLICATIONS IN BRAILLE AND APPARATUS FOR THE BLIND ..				8,288	0	8
HOME INDUSTRIES ACCOUNT DEFICIT ..				2,005	19	3
OTHER EXPENSES—						
Mortgage Interest	1,342	10	0			
Benevolent Allowances	389	17	0			
Audit Fee, Legal and Professional Charges	738	3	0			
Maintenance of Property at Sunshine House, Chorley Wood	85	2	10			
Hoole Bank, Chester	151	3	2			
				236	6	0
Dilapidations 38-40, Langham Street ..	258	10	9			
				2,965	6	9
BALANCE CARRIED TO BALANCE SHEET ..						
General Account	11,315	5	3			
Blind Babies' Fund	13,026	5	4			
Ex-Service Men's Fund	936	14	8			
				25,358	5	3
				£157,215	17	8

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Brought forward				130,011	10	0
AMOUNTS RECEIVED (INCLUDING THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH GRANT) IN RESPECT OF MAINTENANCE AND UPKEEP OF—						
Massage School				1,907	12	7
Blind Babies' Homes—						
Abbotskerswell	1,359	3	7			
Leamington	1,868	8	7			
Southport	2,108	14	3			
				5,336	6	5
Chorley Wood College				5,138	9	7
Convalescent and Holiday Home, St. Leonards-on-Sea	3,341	7	5			
Guest House for Aged Blind Women, Leamington	1,862	17	6			
Blind Women's Home, Brighton	1,222	11	2			
Residential Club for Blind Women, London	224	18	2			
Hostel—8, Oval Road	196	17	0			
Hostel—9, Oval Road	209	6	6			
				7,057	17	9
				19,440	6	4
MISCELLANEOUS				564	1	4
GIFTS OF PROPERTY, FURNITURE, AND SPECIAL DONATION—						
Sunshine House, Abbotskerswell	6,600	0	0			
Guest House for Aged Blind Women, Leamington	600	0	0			
				7,200	0	0
MINISTRY OF HEALTH GRANT						
Expended as under:—						
Massage				20	0	0
Braille Productions				6,555	9	6
Home Industries				3,501	17	5
Guest House for Aged Blind Women, Leamington				240	16	5
Residential Club for Blind Women				8	16	0
8, Oval Road				40	10	0
9, Oval Road				27	10	0
Blind Women's Home, Brighton				223	12	0
Clifton Home for Blind Women, Bristol				137	18	7
Moon Society				1,254	16	10
Workshop Employees				133	16	0
Manuscript				96	5	0
Convalescent and Holiday Home, St. Leonards-on-Sea				341	5	0
				12,582	12	9
				£157,215	17	8

PUBLICATIONS AND APPARATUS
Account for the Year ended 31st March, 1929

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HOME INDUSTRIES

Account for the Year ended 31st March, 1929

EXPENDITURE

£ s. d. £ s. d.

To Stock at 1st April, 1928 :

Manufactured Goods	...	1,440	12	11	
Materials	... ..	513	0	6	
					1,953 13 5

Payments to the Blind

Goods Purchased

From Blind Home
Workers ... 4,672 19 0

From Workshops
for the Blind ... 2,715 8 7

7,388 7 7

Materials purchased for use of
Home Workers ... 2,453 18 4

Special Allowances to Blind
Workers ... 113 0 10

Gifts of Material to Home
Workers ... 250 5 9

Provision of Tools, Workshops
and other Expenses on behalf
of Home Workers ... 306 0 9

Salaries and Wages 976 13 6

Less Augmentation 325 11 2

651 2 4

Health, Pensions and Unemploy-
ment Insurance ... 21 11 6

Contribution to Sick Fund ... 39 15 5

Total Amount paid direct to the Blind 11,224 2 6

Postage and Carriage ... 429 3 0

Maintenance of Motors and Travelling Shop 569 8 5

Exhibitions and Sales Expenses, Hire of
Halls, etc. ... 384 14 10

Sundries ... 27 7 11

Repairs and Alterations to Premises ... 35 12 4

Travelling ... 212 14 1

Salaries and Wages—Sighted ... 2,330 9 10

Health, Pensions and Unemployment Insurance
—Sighted ... 45 13 6

Printing, Stationery and Advertising ... 301 3 8

Rent, Rates, Taxes, Insurance and Telephone 264 7 4

Fuel, Light and Cleaning ... 81 0 8

Management Expenses ... 211 16 5

Depreciation :

Motor Vans ... 175 0 0

Furniture ... 86 15 4

Initial Equipment for Home
Workers ... 65 2 2

326 17 6

18,398 5 5

Augmentation of Wages to Home Workers ... 3,611 9 11

£22,009 15 4

INCOME

£ s. d. £ s. d.

By Sales

Finished Goods ... 8,017 18 3

Materials ... 2,376 14 11

10,424 13 2

Grant, Ministry of Health

Balance of Grant, 1927/28 ... 1,418 17 5

On Account of 1928/29 ... 2,083 0 0

3,501 17 5

Donations, etc. ...

94 7 3

Stock at 31st March, 1929

Manufactured Goods ... 1,781 0 7

Materials ... 703 1 9

Stationery ... 32 3 10

2,516 6 2

16,537 4 0

Grants from County and
Borough Councils, etc., for
Augmentation of Blind
Workers' Wages on account
of 1928/29 :

Corporation of Brighton ... 245 10 0

Corporation of Canterbury ... 78 0 0

County Borough of Croydon 343 12 6

Borough of Eastbourne ... 14 0 0

East Sussex County Council 208 0 0

Hampshire Association for
the Care of the Blind ... 146 3 0

Isle of Wight Society for the
Blind ... 13 0 0

Kent County Council ... 647 16 10

London County Council ... 999 3 4

Southampton Association for
the Blind ... 133 17 3

Surrey County Council ... 482 10 10

West Sussex Association for
the Blind ... 154 18 4

3,466 12 1

Balance carried to General Charity Fund
Account ... 2,005 19 3

£22,009 15 4

HOMES FOR BLIND BABIES

ABBOTSKERSWELL, DEVON; LEAMINGTON, WARWICKSHIRE; SOUTHPORT, LANCASHIRE.

Account for the Year ended 31st March, 1929

EXPENDITURE				INCOME.			
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
To Salaries of Teachers, Matrons and Nurses	1,933	14	5	By Grant, Board of Education	825	0	0
Wages of Servants (Including Laundry, Charwomen and Gardeners)...	1,108	16	2	Grants, Local Authorities for Maintenance	2,752	5	8
Blind Masseuse	36	3	0	Fees, etc., received from Parents, Guardians, Friends, Societies, etc.	604	14	10
Health, Pensions, Unemployment and Workmen's Compensation Insurance	81	10	4	Donations	807	19	6
Provisions	1,941	14	2	Dividends on Investments	335	16	5
Printing, Stationery, Postage, Educational Books and Apparatus	74	19	5	Miscellaneous Revenue	10	10	0
Fuel, Light and Cleaning	776	9	11		£5,336	6	5
Rent, Rates, Taxes and Telephone	345	18	6	Balance—Deficit provided from General Funds	2,795	12	10
Renewals	79	7	1				
Medical Treatment, Medicine, Dressings, Bandages, etc.	232	4	11				
Travelling	48	6	2				
Clothing, Staff	51	0	10				
Clothing, Babies	85	7	11				
Sundries	79	4	0				
Superannuation	34	17	9				
	6,909	14	7				
Management Expenses	680	17	0				
Upkeep of Buildings and Grounds (Including Repairs and Insurance)	541	7	8				
	£8,131	19	3		£8,131	19	3

Account for the Year ended 31st March, 1929.

EXPENDITURE		INCOME	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
To Salaries of Teachers, Matron, Servants, &c.	2,428 12 8	By Maintenance Fees and Fees paid by Pupils' Parents and Guardians	1,758 17 1
Health, Pensions, Unemployment and Workmen's Compensation Insurance	23 0 8	Fees paid by Educational Authorities, &c.	1,002 17 0
Provisions	1,240 7 11	Fees paid by the National Institute for the Blind	1,871 6 8
Laundry	235 14 1	Donations and Collections	80 14 1
Other Household Expenses and Sundries	19 8 1	Sundry Receipts	32 6 8
Rent, Rates, Taxes, Insurance and Telephone	224 8 6	Dividends on Investments	365 0 11
Fuel, Light and Cleaning	509 7 10	Income Tax Recoverable	27 7 2
Printing, Stationery and Postage, Educational Books and Apparatus	142 2 10		5,138 9 7
Travelling	30 10 10	Balance—Deficit provided from General Funds	649 12 10
Renewals	65 19 1		
School Teachers' Superannuation	49 5 0		
	4,968 17 6		
Froebel Students	69 17 4		
Management Expenses	151 6 0		
Upkeep of Building and Grounds, including Repairs, Insurance, and Wages of Engineers	598 1 7		
	£5,788 2 5		£5,788 2 5

CONVALESCENT AND HOLIDAY HOME, ST. LEONARDS-ON-SEA
GUEST HOUSE FOR AGED BLIND WOMEN, LEAMINGTON
HOME FOR BLIND WOMEN, BRIGHTON
RESIDENTIAL CLUB FOR BLIND WOMEN, LONDON
HOSTEL FOR BLIND WOMEN, 8 OVAL ROAD, LONDON
HOSTEL FOR BLIND WOMEN, 9 OVAL ROAD, LONDON
Account for the Year ended 31st March, 1929

EXPENDITURE		£	s.	d.
To Salaries of Teachers, Matrons, Servants, etc.		1,900	4	4
Health, Pensions, Unemployment and Workmen's Compensation Insurance		56	11	8
Provisions		2,871	1	1
Laundry		476	17	7
Other Household Expenses and Sundries ...		109	6	11
Rent, Rates, Taxes, Insurance and Telephone		564	19	2
Fuel, Light and Cleaning		762	11	6
Medical Charges		238	15	6
Printing, Stationery and Postage, Educational Books and Apparatus		82	13	7
Travelling		24	10	3
Renewals		93	10	0
Clothing, Inmates		19	0	11
		<hr/>		
		7,205	2	6
Management Expenses		605	4	2
Upkeep of Buildings and Grounds (including Repairs, Insurance, and Wages of Engineers)		881	14	8

£8,692 1 4

INCOME		£	s.	d.
By Maintenance Fees		4637	8	11
Fees paid by the National Institute for the Blind		1011	17	0
Donations and Collections		91	5	4
Dividends on Investments		292	3	10
Grant, Ministry of Health		882	9	5
Rents		30	0	0
Legacies :—				
Mrs. E. E. Trubshawe		112	13	3
		<hr/>		
		7,057	17	9
Balance—Deficit provided from General Funds		1,634	3	7

£8,692 1 4

ARMITAGE MEMORIAL FUND
Account for the Year ended 31st March, 1929

EXPENDITURE			INCOME		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To General Charity Fund Account	122	0 0	By Cash received from the Worshipful Company		
(included in Dividends, Interest and Rents)			of Clothworkers... ..	122	0 0

ARMITAGE FUND FOR THE EMPLOYMENT OF BLIND WRITERS
Account for the Year ended 31st March, 1929

EXPENDITURE			INCOME		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Amount paid to Blind Writers	187	9 11	By Cash received from the Worshipful Company		
			of Clothworkers... ..	110	18 0
			Balance—Deficit provided from General Fund	76	11 11
	<u>£187</u>	<u>9 11</u>		<u>£187</u>	<u>9 11</u>

LEEDS EMBOSSED BOOKS FUND
Account for the Year ended 31st March, 1929

RECEIPTS			PAYMENTS		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Cash at Bank, 1st April, 1928	117	14 7	By Amount expended on goods supplied to Leeds		
Amount received from the Worshipful			Institution	73	1 5
Company of Clothworkers	68	8 4	Cash at Bank	116	10 1
Deposit Interest	3	8 7			
	<u>£189</u>	<u>11 6</u>		<u>£189</u>	<u>11 6</u>

NOTE.—The Capital Stock of this Fund is held in trust by the Worshipful Company of Clothworkers, and the dividends received and paid over by them are for the supply of Braille Literature, Apparatus, etc., for the benefit of the Blind of Leeds and District.

BAILEY BEQUEST
Account for the Year ended 31st March, 1929

EXPENDITURE			INCOME		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To General Charity Fund for general purposes...	254	4 10	By Dividend on Investment	559	6 4
General Charity Fund Relief to Necessitous Blind	254	4 10			
(The above items are included in Dividends,					
Interest and Rents)					
London Association for the Blind	25	8 4			
Barclay Workshop for Blind Women	25	8 4			
	<u>£559</u>	<u>6 4</u>		<u>£559</u>	<u>6 4</u>

SALOMONS BEQUEST

Account for the Year ended 31st March, 1929

EXPENDITURE			INCOME		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To General Charity Fund Account (included in Dividends, Interest and Rents)	497	0 0	By Interest on Investment	397	12 0
			Income Tax Recoverable	99	8 0
	<u>£497</u>	<u>0 0</u>		<u>£497</u>	<u>0 0</u>

HARRY WEEDON MEMORIAL FUND

Account for the Year ended 31st March, 1929.

EXPENDITURE			INCOME		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Amounts expended in Grants and Relief	390	2 3	By Allocation from Greater London Fund	468	1 4
Balance carried to Balance Sheet	77	19 1			
	<u>£468</u>	<u>1 4</u>		<u>£468</u>	<u>1 4</u>

THE HENRY STAINSBY MEMORIAL GIFT FUND FOR THE BLIND

Statement of Account to 31st March, 1929.

RECEIPTS			PAYMENTS		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Cash at Bank 1st April, 1928	1	6 3	By Amount Expended in Gifts	28	6 2
„ Subscriptions and Donations		8 8	„ Cash at Bank	36	14 2
„ Interest on Investments	63	5 5			
	<u>£65</u>	<u>0 4</u>		<u>£65</u>	<u>0 4</u>

G. F. MOWATT } *Joint Honorary Treasurers of the*
A. J. W. KITCHIN } *National Institute for the Blind*

We have examined the above account with the books and vouchers of the Fund, and certify the same to be in accordance therewith, and in our opinion correct.

58, COLEMAN STREET, E.C.2
28th June, 1929

JACKSON, PINLEY & CO., *Chartered Accountants,*
Auditors.

NOTE.—Capital Stock of the Fund £1,807 14 2 3½% Conversion Loan Inscribed Stock, is held in trust by the National Institute for the Blind.

Balance Sheet, 31st March, 1929

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
By Investments (at Market Value 31st March, 1921) :						
4% Dominion of Canada Registered Stock	72	0	0			
4% London Midland and Scottish Railway Stock	138	6	3			
4½% New Zealand Stock, 1948/58...	182	17	2			
				393	3	5
Freehold Property				600	0	0
Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment at 31st March, 1928	340	10	11			
Additions	13	13	10			
	354	4	9			
Less Depreciation... ..	35	8	6			
				318	16	3
Sundry Debtors				109	12	10
Cash at Bank and on Hand ...				73	2	9
				£1,494	15	3

JACKSON, PIXLEY & CO.,
Chartered Accountants.
Auditors.

EXPENDITURE							INCOME.									
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.	
To Maintenance	367	4	0		By Maintenance Fees				495	12	0					
Salaries and Wages	270	8	0		Fees paid by National Institute for											
Health, Pensions and Unemployment Insurance	12	12	9		the Blind				127	5	0					
Fuel, Light and Cleaning	77	12	7		Donations				43	7	0					
Printing, Stationery and Postage	10	14	4		Grant, Ministry of Health	137	18	7								
Rates, Taxes, Insurance and Telephone	34	6	9		Grant, National Institute for the											
Legal Charges	10	10	0		Blind	222	15	0								
Medical Fees and Drugs	58	8	1						360	13	7					
Repairs and Renewals	73	1	6		Dividends on Investments				22	0	6					
Travelling Expenses	3	2	8		Income Tax Recoverable				1	12	10					
Laundry	62	9	0		Balance carried to Balance Sheet ...				78	8	11					
Audit Fee	5	0	0													
Sundries	32	8	8													
Management Expenses	75	13	0													
Depreciation on Furniture	35	8	6													
	£1,128	19	10						£1,128	19	10					

MOON SOCIETY

Balance Sheet, 31st March, 1929

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
To Sundry Creditors				451	6	0
Capital Account for Endowment ...				2,667	14	5
Accumulated Funds :						
Balance at 31st March, 1928 ...	15,202	10	8			
Less Balance from General Charity Fund Account ...	110	2	11			
				15,092	7	9

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
By Investments. Endowments—						
Miss A. E. C. Moon :						
3½% Queensland Government						
Stock, 1950/70	1,152	1	7			
4% Consolidated Loan, 1957 ...	550	0	0			
5% War Stock, 1929/47	965	12	10			
				2,667	14	5
Freehold Premises at 31st March, 1928	5,866	5	0			
Less Written off	293	6	3			
				5,572	18	9
Investments—						
5% War Stock, 1929/47	383	5	6			
4½% Treasury Bonds, 1934 ...	99	0	0			
Victoria 5% Inscribed Stock, 1945/75	3,456	11	0			
				3,938	16	6
Plant at 31st March, 1928	2,004	5	1			
Less Depreciation	200	8	6			
				1,803	16	7
Furniture and Fittings at 31st March, 1928	646	14	9			
Additions	3	11	0			
	650	5	9			
Less Depreciation	65	0	7			
				585	5	2
Stock as valued by Officials of the Society				1,809	9	8
Sundry Debtors				577	3	7
Cash at Bank and on Hand	756	3	6			
Cash on Deposit	500	0	0			
				1,256	3	6
				£18,211	8	2

£18,211 8 2

G. F. MOWATT } Joint Honorary Treasurers of the
A. J. W. KITCHIN } National Institute for the Blind.

We report that we have obtained all the information and explanations which we have required, and that in our opinion the Balance Sheet at the 31st March, 1929, is properly drawn up so as to exhibit a true and correct view of the state of the Moon Society's affairs, according to the best of our information and the explanations given to us, and as shown by the books of the Moon Society.

58 COLEMAN STREET, E.C.2
28th June, 1929

JACKSON, PIXLEY & CO.,
Chartered Accountants,
Auditors.

MOON SOCIETY

General Charity Fund Account for the Year ended 31st March, 1929

EXPENDITURE				INCOME			
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
To Balance transferred from Publications Account			5 9 2	By Subscriptions			14 15 0
Annuities payable under the Will of the late Miss A. E. C. Moon		60	0 0	Donations			15 9
Audit Fee		10	10 0	Dividends on Investments and Deposit Interest			339 19 3
Depreciation :				Rents			181 12 10
Plant	200	8	6	Sundry Receipts			9
Furniture and Fittings	65	0	7	Balance carried to Balance Sheet			110 2 11
Freehold	293	6	3				
			558 15 4				
Legal and Professional Charges ...			12 12 0				
			<u>£647 6 6</u>				<u>£647 6 6</u>

Publications Account for the Year ended 31st March, 1929

EXPENDITURE				INCOME			
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
To Value of Stock, 1st April, 1928 ...			1,951 15 7	By Sale of Books	3,839	8	5
Salaries and Wages			1,986 17 9	Sale of Magazines and Newspapers	675	6	4
Health, Pensions and Unemployment Insurance			50 9 0				4,514 14 9
Materials for Stereotyping, Embossing, Binding, etc.			512 1 3	Grant, Ministry of Health ...			1,254 16 10
Printing, Stationery, Postage, Carriage and Packing			97 6 0	Stock at 31st March, 1929			1,809 9 8
Fuel, Light, Water and Power ...			100 19 3	Balance transferred to General Charity Fund Account			5 9 2
Rates, Taxes, Insurance and Telephone			125 1 0				
Repairs and Maintenance to Premises and Machinery			51 19 0				
General Expenses			7 0 2				
Management Expenses			378 5 2				
Value of Free Distribution of Books, Pamphlets, etc. :							
Gifts	23	16	8				
Books, etc., supplied to the National Library for the Blind	151	8	4				
Reductions allowed from cost of :							
Books and Pamphlets	1,697	19	0				
Magazines	114	3	2				
Newspapers	335	9	1				
			2,322 16 3				
			<u>£7,584 10 5</u>				<u>£7,584 10 5</u>

INVESTMENTS, 31st MARCH, 1929.

INVESTMENTS FOR GENERAL PURPOSES.

GENERAL ACCOUNT.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
5% War Stock, 1929-47				14,449	5	4						
3% India Stock				446	5	0						
4% Funding Loan, 1960-90				349	13	8						
3½% Conversion Loan, 1960				3,409	15	0						
New South Wales 4% Stock, 1933				255	4	4						
New South Wales 3½% Stock, 1930-50				106	10	6						
Southern Railway 4% Debenture Stock				394	1	2						
3% Plymouth Corporation Stock, 1942				205	12	6						
Dominion of Canada 4% Stock,				228	2	6						
							19,844	10	0			
BLIND BABIES' FUND.												
4% Consolidated Loan, 1957				1,773	15	0						
3½% Dominion of Canada Stock, 1930-50				1,394	0	0						
3½% Conversion Loan, 1960				9,000	0	0						
							12,167	15	0			
EX-SERVICE MEN'S FUND.												
4% Funding Loan, 1960-90				2,500	0	0						
3½% Conversion Loan				2,500	0	0						
							5,000	0	0			
CHORLEY WOOD COLLEGE.												
3% India Stock							1,000	0	0			
										38,012	5	0

INVESTMENTS SPECIFICALLY APPROPRIATED.

GENERAL ACCOUNT.												
BAILEY BEQUEST—												
3% Local Loans							9,881	7	1			
SALOMONS BEQUEST—												
4% Consolidated Loan, 1957							9,600	0	0			
MARY SHAW BEQUEST—												
London and North Eastern Railway 5% Preferred Ordinary Stock	123	5	0									
London and North Eastern Railway Deferred Ordinary Stock ...	40	12	0									
London and North Eastern Railway 4% Second Preference Stock	264	12	6									
Metropolitan Railway Consolidated Stock	214	5	0									
Metropolitan Railway Surplus Land Stock	108	18	0									
Globe Telegraph and Trust Co. 6% Cumulative Preference Stock	247	5	0									
Globe Telegraph and Trust Co. Ordinary Stock	555	0	0									
							1,553	17	6			
										21,035	4	7
BLIND BABIES' FUND.												
BLIND BABIES' HOME, CHORLEY WOOD.												
4% Funding Loan, 1960-90	2,598	11	2									
United Steel Companies, Ltd., 6% Obligations	5,000	0	0									
BLIND BABIES' HOME, SOUTHPORT.												
							7,598	11	2			
3½% Conversion Loan 1960							872	5	9			
										8,470	16	11
										29,506	1	6
Carried forward ..										£67,518	6	6

Investments—continued.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Brought forward							67,518	6	6			

INVESTMENTS—ENDOWMENTS.

GENERAL ACCOUNT

Hornshaw Endowment—5% War Stock, 1929-47	...	...	...	1,017	11	0
Sir Alfred Jones Trust and Estate Co., Ltd.	...	...	...	1,000	0	0
Rev. F. J. Hackett—2½% Annuities	...	...	...	100	0	0
Sir John Howard—5% War Stock, 1929-47	...	...	...	200	0	0
Wm. Brown Hextall, Esq.—4½% Conversion Loan, 1940-44	...	...	...	5,000	0	0
Louis Sterne, Esq.—3½% Conversion Loan	...	...	...	50	0	0
Mrs. Elizabeth Kirkham—3½% Conversion Loan	...	...	...	500	0	0
Miss Jesson—3½% Conversion Loan	...	...	...	20	0	0
J. J. Crosfield, Esq., J.P.—3½% Conversion Loan	...	...	...	200	0	0

SIR ARTHUR PEARSON MEMORIAL FUND

3½% Conversion Loan	...	...	...	2,996	4	2
5% Great Western Railway Guaranteed Stock	...	...	...	1,100	15	9
5% Great Western Railway Preference Stock	...	...	...	1,076	3	3
4% London, Midland and Scottish Railway Preference Stock	...	...	...	851	7	1
4% London, Midland and Scottish Railway Debenture Stock	...	...	...	427	4	0
4% London and North Eastern Railway Second Preference Stock	...	...	...	844	9	9
3% Local Loans	...	...	...	276	0	0
5% War Stock, 1929-47	...	...	...	1,932	16	11
				9,505	0	11

17,592 11 11

BLIND BABIES' FUND.

BLIND BABIES' HOME, CHORLEY WOOD.

T. G. Sorby, Esq.—3% Local Loans	...	...	...	107	14	3
Mrs. A. R. Edwards—5% Treasury Bonds, 1933-35	...	...	...	477	10	0
Miss A. D. Spiers—5% Treasury Bonds, 1933-35	...	...	...	477	10	0
Sunday League—5% War Stock, 1929-47	...	...	...	47	17	0
Hornshaw Endowment—5% War Stock, 1929-47	...	...	...	1,020	0	0
Miss Vaughan Chapman—4% Consolidated Loan, 1957	...	...	...	100	0	0
Mrs. Lucy Block—4½% Conversion Loan, 1940-44	...	...	...	508	15	0
Mrs. F. Marks—3½% Conversion Loan, 1960	...	...	...	450	0	0

3,189 6 3

BLIND BABIES' HOME, SOUTHPORT.

Mr and Mrs. H. R. Graves, Investment Account—3½% Conversion Loan, 1960	...	...	...	105	0	0
James Gilbertson, Esq.—3½% Conversion Loan, 1960	...	...	...	500	0	0

605 0 0

3,794 6 3

EX-SERVICE MEN'S FUND.

William Brown Hextall, Esq.—4½% Conversion Loan, 1940-44...	500	0	0
---	-----	---	---

CHORLEY WOOD COLLEGE.

William Brown Hextall, Esq.—4% Great Western Railway Debenture Stock	...	...	...	2,999	4	6
James Gilbertson, Esq.—3½% Conversion Loan, 1930...	...	...	...	500	0	0
				3,499	4	6

25,386 2 8

92,904 9 2

*The Members of the Executive Council of the National Institute for the Blind
wish to express their sincerest thanks to:*

- The tens of thousands of Annual Subscribers, Contributors and Donors throughout the country for their most generous financial assistance during the year.
- The Donors of gifts of clothing, Christmas parcels, etc., for distribution among the blind poor.
- The Organisers and Supporters of functions in aid of the Institute's work.
- Theatrical Proprietors, Managers, and others for the loan of theatres, halls, etc.
- Theatrical and Concert Artistes for their innumerable services.
- The Honorary Members of all Headquarters Committees.
- The Honorary Members of all Committees formed for special purposes.
- The Press throughout the country for their invaluable and never-failing generosity in giving free publicity to details of the Institute's work and objects, and of matters relative to the general welfare of the blind.
- The British Broadcasting Corporation and the "Radio Times" for invaluable help and co-operation.
- Printing Firms for valuable assistance in propaganda work.
- Business and Industrial Firms for sympathetic consideration devoted to the employment of blind labour.
- The Publishers, Authors and Owners of Copyright who have granted permission to print and publish Braille and Moon editions and manuscript copies of books, etc., without fee.
- The Steamship Companies who have conveyed books and apparatus to all parts of the world free of charge or at greatly reduced rates.
- The Voluntary Braille Writers, Readers, Correctors and Teachers in the Manuscript Departments.
- The Publishers, Composers and Owners of Copyright who have granted permission to print and publish Braille editions of music, etc., without fee.
- Clergy, Organists and Members of the National Union of Organists' Associations for organising or permitting recitals and carol services in aid of the Institute's work.
- The eminent Musicians, Lecturers and Academic Bodies who have assisted the Music Department in very many ways.
- The Honorary Officials and Members of the Sunshine Homes Local Committees.
- The Honorary Medical Staff at the Sunshine Homes.
- The Firms and Individuals who have made generous gifts in kind to assist the Sunshine Homes.
- The Committee of the All-England Solo Dancing Competition, and the Dancing Teachers and their Pupils who have supported the competition and organised displays in aid of the Sunshine Homes.
- The Branches and Members of the Sunshine Society.
- The Voluntary Sellers and Organisers of Depots for their service on the Blind Babies' Flag Day.
- The Individuals and Scholastic Establishments who have supported Chorley Wood College.
- The Members of the Medical Profession and Hospital Authorities who have assisted the Massage Department and School.
- The Margaret Morris School of Dancing for free dancing instruction to Students of the Massage School.
- The Officers, and all other ranks of the Services, Ex-Service men, and many others for generous financial assistance to the Blind Ex-Service Men's Fund.
- The Honorary Chaplains and Honorary Medical Staff at the Institute's Homes for Blind Women, etc.
- The Voluntary Readers, Organisers of concert parties and outings, Donors of tickets, etc., for providing amusement for the inmates of the Institute's Homes and the Institute's Blind Employees.
- The Voluntary Organisers of exhibitions and sales held in connection with the Home Industries Department.
- The Donors of wireless sets, headphones, special money gifts, etc., to the Wireless Equipment Department.
- The Members of the Institute's Staff at Headquarters, and at the Branches, Homes and Schools, who devote so much time and labour to the interests of the Blind.

1.

Subscribers are invited to sign, detach, and return to the NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR THE BLIND, 224, 226 & 228 Great Portland Street, W.1, the annexed Bankers' Order for the payment of their Annual Subscription. In this way all future trouble in renewing the payment is avoided, and the Bankers will pay the amount direct, without further order.

This Order can be withdrawn at any time.

BANKERS' ORDER

Name of Bankers.....

Date.....19

Branch.....

Pay to the Account of the National Institute for the Blind at THE WESTMINSTER BANK, Ltd. (Harley Street Branch, 154 Harley Street, W.1), my Subscription of..... now, and continue to pay the amount yearly on the 1st of..... in each year until further notice, without application.

Signature.....

Address.....

2d.

Stamp.....



To the Hon. Treasurers of the

19.....

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR THE BLIND

(Registered under the Blind Persons Act, 1920)

224, 226 & 228, GREAT PORTLAND STREET, LONDON, W.1

I have pleasure in assisting the above Fund in the following manner:—

Annual Subscription	...	...	:	:
Annual Subscription increased by			:	:
Donation	...	...	:	:
			£	:

Enclosed, please find value

(Name)
(Please state whether Mr., Mrs., Miss, etc.)

(Address)

Cheques should be made payable to the "National Institute for the Blind," and crossed "Westminster Bank, Ltd."

If you wish to add to your subscription the amount of income tax paid on it (see page 2 of the Report) please fill in form overpage marked 3.

I....., of.....
 hereby covenant with the NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR THE BLIND that
 for a period of seven years from the.....day of.....19
 or during my life whichever period shall be shorter I will pay annually to the
 said Institute such a sum as will after deduction of income tax leave in the
 hands of the Institute a net sum of £..... (.....)
 such sum to be paid from my general fund of taxed income so that I shall
 receive no personal or private benefit in either of the said periods from the
 said sum or any part thereof.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this.....
 day of.....19 .

Signed sealed and delivered by the said
 in the presence of

Signature

Address.....

Occupation



FORM OF BEQUEST

"I give to the NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR THE BLIND,
of 224, 226 & 228 GREAT PORTLAND STREET, LONDON, W.I., the sum of

free of Duty, to be applied for the general purposes of the said
National Institute."

IMPORTANT.—Property of all kinds, including Land of any tenure and
also including Money lent on Mortgage and the securities therefor, may
lawfully be given to Charitable Institutions by Will.

*The above printed form can be readily adapted to Gifts of Land by the
substitution of a description of the land in question for the words "the sum of."*

When a Will has been already made, and it is afterwards desired
to benefit the National Institute, it will be sufficient if the form on the
back is filled up, detached, duly signed and witnessed in like manner
as the Will itself, and carefully attached to the existing Will.

This is a Codicil to the last Will of me

dated

I give to the NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR THE BLIND,
OF 224, 226 & 228 GREAT PORTLAND STREET, LONDON, W.1., the sum of

free of Duty, to be applied for the general purposes of the said National Institute.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand this _____ day of

19

Signed by the Testat. _____ as and
for a Codicil to h. _____ last Will
dated _____
in the presence of us, both present at the
same time, who at h. _____ request, and in
h. _____ presence, and in the presence of
each other, have hereunto set our names as
witnesses.

Signature of Testator or Testatrix.

WITNESSES SHOULD
SIGN HERE

(1)

of

(Profession)

(2)

of

(Profession)